

Are you living with HIV/AIDS?  
Survive AIDS members  
want to hear from you ASAP.

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Changing of the guard  
After helping thousands snared by  
DADT, SLDN's Benecke steps down.

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Foreign intrigue  
'Berlin & Beyond' fest  
back at the Castro.  
see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 3 • 18 January 2001

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

## Did minister fake amnesia to escape straight lifestyle?

by Ed Walsh

**D**id a Mill Valley minister feign amnesia for 17 years in a desperate attempt to escape a heterosexual lifestyle, a conservative church, and the pressures of family life? Or did he genuinely lose his memory after being a victim of violent crime? That's what family and friends of James Simmons, a.k.a. Wesley Barrett "Barre" Cox, are asking as they come to terms with the bizarre tale of an identity lost and found.



James Simmons

The story began July 12, 1984. Barre (pronounced Barry) Cox's car was found along a country road about 40 miles outside Abilene, Texas. The windows were broken and it appeared ransacked. His wallet was found nearby with its contents scattered. The motorbike he kept in the trunk was gone.

A frantic search turned up nothing. Cox worked as a family and youth minister in San Antonio where he had recently moved with his wife and 6-month-old daughter. Although reports later surfaced that he may have been spotted riding on the motorbike north of where his car was found, authorities said they feared foul play. After numerous searches turned up nothing, he was officially declared dead. Cox was 31.

His wife Beth and daughter Talitha eventually moved to Tennessee. The mystery they lived with since 1984 came to an abrupt end last month in a gay church in Texas.

On December 10, a minister from Mill Valley gave his first sermon before White Rock Community Church in Dallas. It was an audition, of sorts. He was applying to be their new pastor. The church, with its predominately gay congregation, had been in communication with him since September. He was their first choice and the only finalist for the job.

His name was James Simmons. The sermon was well-received but it was what happened after the service that would send shock waves through the congregation. In a conversation with church members, someone spoke up to say that he recognized the minister as his former camp counselor, Barre Cox, the man who disap-

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## Protest Bush's inauguration Sat.

by Katie Szymanski

**W**hether or not you supported Al Gore for president, it is increasingly obvious that the bigotry behind Florida's corrupted Election Day activities will remain central to the "compassionate" platform of George W. Bush's administration. As Bush's home state of Texas continues to execute minorities in record numbers, the nation's future includes not just right-wing Cabinet members eager to argue against abortion and gay rights, but possibly the vacancy of Supreme Court seats to be filled in part to repay the favor to the conservative justices responsible for a Bush "victory" in the first place.

It is therefore necessary that everyone — from Naderites to die-hard liberals — show up for the Inauguration Day protest taking place at noon this Saturday, January 20, in San Francisco. If you can't make it to Washington, D.C. for the large demonstration planned, local efforts have long been a way to show visibility on a national scale.

Saturday's protest — held at the Civic Center Plaza at Grove and Larkin — will carry a broad message to free the black vote, end the racist death penalty, and create jobs and



Marchers celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday Monday in San Francisco and call attention to the protest of George W. Bush's inauguration set for Saturday, January 20 at the Civic Center.

schools instead of prisons, in addition to stating that we all know the election was unfair. Organized with the help of the International Action Center, the protest has been endorsed by Board of Supervisors President Tom Amiano and Supervisor Matt Gonzalez;

Queers for Racial and Economic Justice; Radical Women; Rainbow Flags for Mumia; East Bay Women for Peace; Project Censored; and Berkeley City Council member Kriss Worthington, among dozens of other groups and individuals.

Organizers have reported that local efforts to mobilize around Inauguration Day have resulted in some of the largest outreach meetings in years, so turnout is expected to be huge. Individual motivations for attending may vary, according to the IAC, which has posted an article entitled, "Thirteen Reasons to Protest the Inauguration" on its Web site. Reason one? "Bush will become president only due to massive racist disenfranchisement and voting fraud." Reason two is that "Governor Death is moving to Washington." Other reasons include mobilizing to defend a woman's right to choose and to stop the clock from turning back on gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender civil rights.

Saturday's demo will kick off at noon, but people are expected to assemble beginning in the morning hours. For more information on San Francisco's protest, visit [www.iacenter.org](http://www.iacenter.org), or call (415) 821-6545. ▼

## Identity crisis

### Politics shapes debate between gender groups

by Katie Szymanski

**I**f the fight for gender rights could be narrowed into two different camps, those branches might look almost identical: in one corner, there are those who believe in a broad movement that includes people at all points along the gender spectrum; and in the other corner are those who believe in the exact same mission, but want to approach it differently.

It has been almost two weeks since a group of transgendered activists from all around the country sent an open letter of concern in regard to GenderPAC, the national lobbying arm of the gender rights movement that was born from — and until recently had focused upon — trans-identified battles. Within the last year the organization has moved to Washington, D.C., gained a full-time staff, and emphasized its desire to fight for gender rights on a more mainstream scale.

What this means is that GenderPAC now has a strategy that "appears to involve de-emphasizing its connection to the trans community," according to those who signed the letter.



GenderPAC's Riki Wilchins

Many of those signatures belong to people who were once a part of GenderPAC but left due to irreconcilable differences.

"This new focus has resulted in the dropping of some of GenderPAC's transgender-focused projects," the letter continued. "GenderPAC's call for its 'National Conference on Gender' next spring made it clear that proposals for trans-focused workshops would not be well-received."

These criticisms are unfounded, according to Riki Wilchins, GenderPAC's executive director and a well-known transsexual activist and writer.

#### Paradigms falling

"Nobody is being squeezed out, they're just being included into a broader spectrum of people who need their right to express their gender," Wilchins told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Wilchins added that proposals for the upcoming conference must be inclusive in all ways, and that someone presenting a seminar on women's issues was recently asked to revise the curriculum to include transgenders.

"Our mission and vision has always been to build a broad-based inclusive movement."

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## Help for tenants in the Castro



Winchester, right, possibly facing eviction due to new owners of her apartment building, gets advice Sunday, January 14 from Lisa Dettmer, a counselor with the Housing Rights Committee, during the first drop-in neighborhood counseling site in the Castro, as another counselor, Tommi Avicoli Mecca, looks on. The free clinic, open every Sunday from 3:15-5:15 p.m. at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka Street, offers a variety of help to tenants. For more information, call (415) 703-8644.

## JFCS expands services to LGBTs and families

by Terry Beswick

Margaret Rothman wants to make the Jewish community a more welcoming place for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people.

"In the Jewish community, we have a lot of work to do in terms of reaching out," said the coordinator of Jewish Family and Children's Services' new LGBT Outreach Project. Rothman began working with JFCS several months ago, administering a community survey used to design the organization's new LGBT programs, which are being added to the wide range of services offered to gays and straights, Jews and non-Jews alike.

JFCS is a nonsectarian, 150-year-old organization, Rothman said, based on Jewish social and communal values.

"We've been doing things to serve the queer community for awhile now," Rothman noted. For example, she said, JFCS was the first Jewish agency to help gay and bisexual men access essential services through its AIDS project 10 years ago. In addition, the organization assists gay and lesbian couples with adopting babies in a bias-free environment.

Now, JFCS is making an aggressive effort to reach out to the



Margaret Rothman, of JFCS

LGBT community. "The outreach project has three objectives," said Rothman. "First, new programming to meet specific needs of LGBT people. Second, outreach to LGBT people about other programs and services already offered, such as adoption services. And third, professional development within our agency to make sure that everyone who works here is sensitive and aware of LGBT issues and concerns."

"This is pioneering work in the local Jewish community," Rothman continued. "There are a few programs like this in other cities,

in Minneapolis, New York, Seattle, to name a few."

To kick off the new program, this Sunday, January 21 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., JFCS will begin a free, confidential peer support group for parents and loved ones of Jewish LGBT people. Rothman said the new group is an opportunity to meet others "dealing with similar issues, to give and receive support and to brainstorm about how to make our Jewish community more welcoming and safe."

Modeled on a successful Peninsula program called "Kulanu" at Congregation Beth Am in Los Altos Hills, the support group will be held at the JFCS offices, at the Miriam Schultz Grunfeld Professional Building at 2150 Post Street in San Francisco.

Other support groups beginning soon include one for adults who are coming out, and another for queer couples, "Making Commitment Work," offering same-gender and queer-identified couples a safe place to discuss issues such as dealing with challenging families, living together, commitment ceremonies, and monogamy.

For more information, interested people can call Rothman at (415) 449-1228 or e-mail her at [margaretr@jfcs.org](mailto:margaretr@jfcs.org). For more information about JFCS, see [www.jfcs.org](http://www.jfcs.org).

## Reform Jews take on Boy Scouts

by Terry Beswick

Another brick has fallen out of the wall of homophobia around the Boy Scouts of America erected by its embattled executives and propped up by the U.S. Supreme Court.

In a recent decision, leaders of Reform Judaism — with about 1.5 million members the largest denomination of Jews in North America — recommended that its 1,000 member congregations sever ties with the BSA, and that parents pull their kids out of the Scouts.

A January memorandum from the Joint Commission on Social Action of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations to its members said the Scouts' policy to exclude gays and lesbians is "incompatible with our consistent belief that every individual — regardless of his or her

sexual orientation — is created in the image of God and is deserving of equal treatment."

"While we maintain our hope that the Boy Scouts of America will abandon its discriminatory policies, its lack of response to the many expressions of disagreement and disappointment with the policies gives us little basis for optimism," said the recommendation.

Last June, the Supreme Court ruled that the Scouts, as a private organization, was protected by the First Amendment's freedom of association provisions from accepting members who, in its view, are incompatible with their mission. The Scouts have said that gays are not acceptable role models for youth.

"We support their decision 100 percent," said Scott Cozza, president of Scouting for All. "They are an inspiration for other denominations to work on this issue and to

take a stand. Whether that means cutting all ties or taking a very vocal stand from within is a decision each denomination must make."

Jewish organizations sponsor just 277 of the Scout's 123,935 troops nationwide, according to a BSA spokesman, and it is not known how many of the Jewish congregations will take steps to immediately sever ties.

In response to the advisory, at least one synagogue — Temple Judea of Coral Gables, Florida — voted unanimously last week to end its 49 year relationship with Boy Scouts Troop #64.

The commission also suggests that, for congregations unable or unwilling to sever ties with BSA chapters at this time, they should consider withdrawing financial support of the BSA and continue personal and professional protests of the organization. ▼



# Leifield to leave Stop AIDS Project

by Terry Beswick

It's as good a time as any for Timothy Leifield to move on as executive director of the Stop AIDS Project.

This Wednesday, the HIV prevention organization founded in 1984 will celebrate handing out its 3 millionth condom in San Francisco (see story below).

While it may be just a symbolic milestone, that's a lot of used condoms, and potentially a lot of HIV infections avoided.

But making sure that condoms are readily available in bars and sex clubs and other venues where men meet other men for sex has only been a small part of the Stop AIDS Project's work during Leifield's more than three years at the organization's helm, a period marked by expansion and innovation in outreach programs targeting specific communities at risk of HIV infection.

"The staff, board of directors, and new programs are strong, and I feel this is an appropriate time to move on," said Leifield, who said that after years of fighting the epidemic, he has "burned out."

Stop AIDS' board of directors has named Andrew Brother Elk the interim executive director while the search for a permanent executive gets under way. Leifield said he plans to take some time off to travel, visiting family and friends in Florida and Colorado. After that, he is uncertain about his future.

Prior to his arrival at Stop AIDS, Leifield served as executive director of the Boulder County AIDS Project for eight years and chaired the disbursements committee for the Colorado Governor's AIDS Council.

"I still believe in the need for ongoing prevention efforts, especially now, as AIDS slips into the background in our community," he said. "I'm confident that Andrew will capably lead the agency during this transition."

"It's an honor to be able to serve," said Brother Elk, who will serve as interim executive director until May, when he reports he will return to the dot-com industry, where he has worked for the last six years. He also brings 10 years of teaching and administrative work at Stanford University to the agency, and currently serves as chairperson of the Native American Cultural Center and as a commissioner on the San Francisco Art Commission. In 1995, Brother Elk co-founded the Harvey Milk Institute and served as its first dean.

## Reflecting on the past, looking ahead

"It is hard to gauge our success," said Leifield, who leaves his post on February 1. "I'm the first to admit that I think with the new [anti-viral] drugs coming in 1995 and 1996, I think the fact that we can hold infection rates level, it's been a success."

There were 13 people on staff when Leifield came to the Stop AIDS Project in April 1987; now there are 31 staff persons with a nearly \$2 million annual budget, and over 200 volunteers managing a wide variety of innovative programs targeting gay and bisexual men.

"We will miss Tim dearly," said board president Jason Lorber. "He is a passionate leader who has



Departing Executive Director Timothy Leifield, left, and interim director Andrew Brother Elk at the Stop AIDS Project offices.

strengthened the Stop AIDS Project on a number of different levels."

But Leifield leaves the organization at a time when there are increasing concerns about higher HIV infection rates in the gay and bisexual male community. While hard numbers can be tough to come by, gay and bisexual men are clearly relaxing safer sex practices that were the standard in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

"The biggest challenge is to keep some sort of community norm around safe sex," he said. "We've gotta keep that conversation going. We've gotta say it's not okay."

Leifield recounted a recent dinner party conversation at which one of the guests described a commonplace scene he'd just witnessed in a South of Market bar's back room: a man getting fucked by three different guys without any discussion of condoms, or serostatus – or anything else whatsoever.

"I feel like a lot of people are

trading 10 minutes of bliss for 25 years of diarrhea," he said, before catching himself almost apologetically, saying, "And there we go with the 'scare tactics' again, but how else do you say it?"

"No one is going to go to a four-hour lecture on AIDS," Leifield said, explaining the thrust of the project's educational programming, revolving primarily around culturally-specific one-time workshops. "What we're trying to do is keep conversations going."

During Leifield's tenure, the Stop AIDS Project developed new workshops for African American gay and bisexual men, Latino men, HIV-positive men, men over 40, female-to-male transgender people, and most recently, an extensive Web-based outreach project for men meeting men online.

Leifield gives credit to HIV-affected people themselves for pointing the way.

"Most of that's coming from

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## Who wants to be the 3 millionth condom user?

by Terry Beswick

Who will be the lucky recipient of the Stop AIDS Project's 3,000,000th condom?

No one knows for sure, and whoever gets it may not win any special prizes – other than the chance to put the thing to good use – but the 16-year-old HIV prevention organization plans to celebrate the queer occasion this Wednesday, January 24, from 5 to 6 p.m.

Come one, come all, say organizers of Condoms Now!, the Stop AIDS Project's free condom distribution program which gives away over 900,000 of the latex lovelies annually to gay and bisexual men at more than 95 venues throughout San Francisco.

Participating merchants are especially invited to attend the free "Three Millionth Condom Celebration Event" hosted by The Café at 2367 Market Street. Stop AIDS organizers plan to acknowledge the role of the local bars, clubs, and restaurants in HIV prevention.

Created in September 1997 with city funding, Condoms Now! distributes in the Castro, Haight, Mission, Polk, South of Market, and Tenderloin neighborhoods – all locales where gay and bisexual men gather to get laid.

Condoms Now! distributes two types of condom – Kimono PS and MAXX (larger-sized condoms) – both manufactured by Mayer Laboratories in Oakland, and placed in plastic bins on counters and spaces accessible to patrons.

"Prior to its creation, community activists and newspaper editors were demanding a year-round free condom distribution program for gay and bisexual men when it was discovered that free condoms weren't widely available in bars during the Folsom Street Fair, which is one of the largest gatherings of gay and bisexual men in San Francisco," said organizers. The Bay Area Reporter was one of the newspapers that pressed the case for the condom giveaways.

Community luminaries invited to attend Wednesday's event include Supervisors Tom Ammann and Mark Leno, former Supervisor Leslie Katz, Chablis, Donna Sachet, John Caldera, and Daddy Alan Selby.

For more information, call Marcel Miranda at (415) 575-0748. ►

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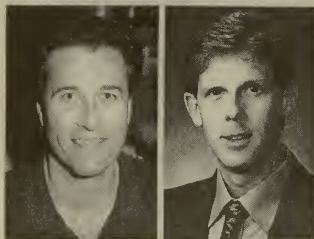
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## Hitting the \$7 million mark



**L**ongtime Under One Roof customer Steve Zwillinger, left, receives a gift basket from Greg Hardin, special projects manager, after making the purchase that put the store over the \$7 million mark in sales on January 5. Participating HIV/AIDS agencies receive 100 percent of the profits from every sale. Under One Roof expects to distribute over \$250,000 to agencies within the next several weeks.

## Don't look now

by Jane Warner

**I** 6th and Sanchez, January 13, 12:45 a.m.: A man walking on Sanchez near 16th noticed another man standing on the corner of the intersection. When the two met eyes, the other man said, "What are you looking at, you fucking faggot? I'm going to kill you!" Fearing for his life, the victim began to run.

The suspect caught up to him near Sanchez and Market, pushed him to the ground, punched him several times in the head and kicked him in the ribs. Seeing that the contents of his backpack had scattered on the street, the suspect stopped his vicious attack long enough for the victim to run away and call 911. Responding police searched the area for the suspect, but to no avail. Suspect is described as white, 28-30 years old, 5 feet 11 inches tall, 185 pounds, with blond hair, wearing

a gray nylon hat, black jacket, and blue jeans. The victim was treated and released at the scene for a swollen nose and a cut lip.

### Sleeping victim

500 block of Church, January 8, 11:30 p.m.: Police were called to St. Luke's Hospital on a report of a robbery victim who had overdosed. Officers met with the complainant, who told them he

had met a man on the corner of 18th and Church Street and invited him home. Once there, the man hid his wallet and \$700 under the television set in the living room, out of sight from his new acquaintance.

After about 30 minutes into their visit, the victim told police he grew tired and fell asleep. When he awoke a short time later, his date was gone and so was the \$700 he had hidden. The victim told police he was so upset that he took some pills to relax, but must have forgotten how many he had taken,

and called an ambulance when he started to feel dizzy. The suspect is described as Hispanic, 35-40 years old, 6 feet 2 inches tall, and 180 pounds, with black hair and unknown clothing.

### Burning man

Daddy's bar, 440 Castro, January 8, 10:10 p.m.: After receiving a complaint about a group of young adults standing outside flicking cigarettes at people as they walked by, the manager of the bar asked them to move on. A verbal altercation began, but shortly ended after a member of the group shook the manager's hand and said, "You're right. We're sorry." When they were done shaking hands the apologetic young man quickly turned around and punched the manager on the left side of his face. Laughing, the pack ran up Castro toward Market. Responding officers found the group at Harvey Milk Plaza and arrested the suspect for battery. The 24-year-old man was taken to Mission Station where he was given a citation to appear and released from custody. ▼



## Calling all Tenderloin transgenders

by Katie Szymanski

**T**enderloin trannies and their friends are invited to a forum at the Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center this Monday, January 22, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the drop-in center at 183 Golden Gate Avenue.

TARC's transgender forum — an open discussion accompanied by a hot meal and beverages — will address the current medical and psycho-social support needs of the Tenderloin's transgender com-

munity. The forum will be moderated by TARC board chair Sarah Marshall and attended by TARC Executive Director Paul Causey and deputy director Tom Calvanese, all of whom will be looking for input on what services need to be offered.

"We'll be asking very pointed questions to get feedback on where clients would like our services to go," said Leigh Illion, a spokeswoman for TARC. "It's open to everyone but our primary target is the Tenderloin transgen-

der community because we really want to hear from them."

Seating and meals are limited to the first 40 people, so get there early.

TARC was the first group in San Francisco to serve the HIV needs of the transgender community. Through non-judgmental outreach, education, STD testing, client advocacy, and direct service, TARC aims to lessen the incidence of HIV transmission, disease progression, and homelessness.

For more information on Monday's forum, call (415) 431-7476. ▼

## GLAAD accidentally unleashes virus

by Ed Walsh

**T**he Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation is warning that it inadvertently sent virus-infected e-mails to subscribers of its GLAADAlert and GLAADLines mailing lists last week.

GLAAD released the virus on January 9, when it discovered that a mail server error dating back to October had been blocking the release of some of its electronic mail.

"When the error was discovered, the server attempted to send out all the old e-mails at once, re-

sulting in multiple messages to many of our members," said GLAAD in an e-mail to its subscribers sent on January 10, a day after the infected e-mail was sent.

"Unfortunately, the error also resulted in the unintentional redistribution of a virus-containing e-mail GLAAD received earlier in the day. The e-mail, originating from 'hahaha@sexyfun.net' with the subject line '[GLAADPUBS] Snowwhite and the Seven Dwarfs - The REAL story,' contains an attachment file that unleashes a virus when opened. If you received this e-mail, please delete it without opening.

"We apologize for the e-mail problems caused by our server, and we are working to correct them as quickly as possible. If you have not been receiving our publications in recent weeks, please be assured that you will start seeing them again very soon."

GLAAD's New York office referred calls on the virus to its Southern California office. Calls to GLAAD in Los Angeles were not returned by press time.

The warning GLAAD sent to subscribers made no mention about the possible effects of the virus for those who may have already opened it. ▼



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Laurie McBride signs up with Kevin Shelley

by Terry Beswick

The lesbian takeover of the state capitol continues apace with one of the toughest stalwarts of equal rights the lesbian and gay community has ever produced taking a key position in the state government.

Longtime activist Laurie McBride has been appointed to the powerful post of chief of staff to Assembly Majority Leader Kevin Shelley (D-San Francisco).

Most recently, McBride was policy consultant and liaison to the LGBT community for several years for former Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa, who was termed out of his seat in the Legislature last year and is running for mayor of Los Angeles. Now McBride will work for Shelley, who with Assemblywoman Carole Migden represents San Francisco in the Assembly.

"He's terrific to work for and is absolutely on point on all of the issues I care about," said McBride of her new boss. "The greatest thing is I never have to apologize for any of the positions I ever take, publicly or privately."

"For an old died-in-the-wool activist like myself, that means a lot. I really worried about that when I left the Speaker's office, that I would have a hard time with that."

Shelley was equally effusive in his praise for his new staffer.

"I'm thrilled to have her as you can imagine. When Antonio was leaving, I immediately raided his office," he joked, explaining that he had not hired McBride before because "I haven't been this lucky until now. Laurie worked with us on a number of bills last year and I became reacquainted with her on both a personal and professional level."

McBride will be overseeing a staff of 20 as she assists the majority leader in achieving his mission, which he described as "moving policy through the Assembly." Shelley has held his post for three years.

Prior to working for Villaraigosa, McBride had served as executive director of the now-defunct Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality, which has since been replaced by the California Alliance for Pride and Equality as one of the main lobbying organizations for LGBT rights statewide.

"Laurie's new position is an integral part of what we do," said Eric Astacaan, chief lobbyist for CAPE. Astacaan was hopeful that as the majority leader's chief of staff, McBride will be ideally positioned to help move key legislation. "She brings a perspective that will have a great positive impact."

Shelley said that McBride's extensive experience in pushing through legislation of particular concern to the LGBT community will not be a weakness, but a strength, as he moves the Legislature's agenda forward, explaining that the concerns of the gay community so often broadly affect many other constituencies.

"She's kind of been the go-to person on LGBT issues for 20 years," said Shelley, who noted that McBride had worked for former Assemblyman Art Agnos when he was in the Legislature. "In having her on staff, she will not be just a legislative aide on the part of a constituency. She'll do it



Laurie McBride

all."

One of McBride's crowning achievements in Sacramento, an issue that she worked on for two decades, was last year's Employment and Housing Non-discrimination Act (AB1001), from Villaraigosa, which added "sexual orientation" to the list of protect-

ed classes, including race, ethnicity, and gender, in the Fair Employment and Housing Act. As a result, gays and lesbians who can show discrimination in hiring or in housing will have much stronger cases in court, and companies throughout the state will likely add "sexual orientation" to their non-discrimination employment clauses, if they have not already done so.

Shelley said that in working on the bill, McBride built key alliances with the labor community that she will be able to put to use as other legislation moves forward.

"Here she is in these meetings with all the old labor (types), and she's going to be the one to work with them on this issue and they love her," Shelley said. "It's not going to be easy to get that 41st vote to pass a bill through the Assembly. It's one thing for me, and another thing for Laurie to do it ... to call up her labor guys and say, 'Hey, I know this is not your issue, but it's about justice.'"

## Governor's budget shorts AIDS services

by Terry Beswick

AIDS advocates are concerned that while the HIV epidemic continues to grow in California, Governor Gray Davis has shorted critical HIV care and prevention programs in his annual budget proposal to the California Legislature for the state's fiscal year 2001-2002. At \$102 billion, the governor's budget is the largest ever for the state.

"This year, the state enjoys an \$7 billion surplus yet the governor has proposed no new state funding for HIV and AIDS programs," said Dana Van Gorder, state policy director for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "Meanwhile, there is mounting evidence that new HIV infections in California are increasing and more people are living with AIDS. State spending needs to reflect these realities."

"Since Governor Davis has taken office, HIV/AIDS programs have received only \$15 million in new state dollars," added Anne Donnelly, public policy director for Project Inform.

The governor's budget proposal provides \$270 million for HIV/AIDS prevention, education, care, and treatment programs, with \$120.6 million of this coming from the state general fund.

While the governor's budget provides an additional \$5.1 million for the AIDS Drug Assistance program, this money comes from federal sources, noted the advocates, and does not meet the need posed by the increasing numbers of people liv-

ing with HIV who require aggressive combination treatments in order to maintain their health. Project Inform is calling for an additional \$4 million in funding for the ADAP program, while SFAF says that \$5 million is needed to meet the demand for uninsured and underinsured Californians.

"ADAP is an essential health-care program providing AIDS medications for over 19,000 Californians and it must be fully funded," Van Gorder said in a statement. "It is crucial, however, that additional ADAP funding not come at the expense of other HIV programs."

Other programs requiring additional funding, said the advocates, include the HIV assay assistance program, affordable housing programs, residential care facilities, and treatment advocacy programs for communities of color.

The advocates highlighted two prevention initiatives aimed at reducing the HIV infection rate: the "prevention for positives" program, which links prevention and care in a clinic-based intervention program, and an initiative to address methamphetamine abuse among gay men.

Speed use, which has increased among gay men in recent years, has been shown to correlate with unsafe sexual behavior and new cases of HIV transmission.

Current estimates are that up to 130,000 Californians are living with HIV or AIDS, while an additional 8,000 of the state's residents are estimated to become newly infected with HIV each year. ▽

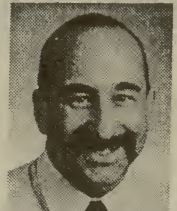
### Correction

In last week's article, "Tom Ammiano unanimously re-elected board president," the District 7 supervisor, Tony Hall, was inadvertently omitted from the list of supervisors. Hall, along with other supervisors representing odd-numbered districts, received a four-year term. We regret the error.

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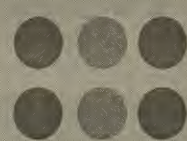
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## This is America ...

As we brace ourselves for this Saturday's inauguration of George W. Bush as the country's 43rd president, we know that for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgenders, the road ahead likely will be a rocky one. The way we see it, Bush has assumed the presidency only through the efforts of the conservative majority of Supreme Court justices, who decided that the vote counting in Florida be stopped in spite of the fact that not all the ballots had been counted. Vice President Al Gore won the popular vote; however, in this country the presidency is determined by the Electoral College, and that is what Bush "won" after the Supreme Court basically awarded him Florida's 25 electoral votes.

So, despite evidence of voter disenfranchisement in Florida (along with other voting irregularities) Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist will administer the oath of office to Bush on Saturday.

What's infuriating about Bush — as well as several of his Cabinet nominees — is that all the rhetoric about "compassionate conservatism" means little to the country's LGBT citizens. On numerous occasions dating from last year's primary season through the GOP convention and general election campaign, Bush and other Republicans talked about how all Americans are equal, yet they never mentioned gays. On Tuesday, former Senator John Ashcroft, who as attorney general-designee is Bush's most controversial Cabinet appointment, spoke during his Senate confirmation hearing about how no American should be turned away from voting, or denied housing or employment because of their skin color. Missing from his comments, however, was the fact that no American should be denied those things because of their sexual orientation.

President Bill Clinton, who leaves office this week, understood that gays and lesbians are people too, with the same hopes and dreams as many other citizens, and that they, too, can make significant contributions to their communities. While his record on equal rights for gays included two huge set-



Oakland's Grand Lake Theatre makes a political statement on its marquee.

backs — the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy covering gays in the military and the Defense of Marriage Act which led to several similar successful state initiatives that define marriage as being between a man and a woman — Clinton nevertheless brought gays and lesbians into the political fold as never before. Many gays and lesbians were appointed to government posts; some were named to high-ranking positions like Roberta Achtenberg, who served as a top official at the Department of Housing and Urban Development; some, like his appointment of James Hormel as ambassador to Luxembourg, were largely symbolic, but historic nonetheless. We don't expect those types of appointments in the Bush administration.

We'll miss Clinton; his ability to connect with vast numbers of Americans — black, white, gay, straight — made him a president unlike any in modern history. It's unfortunate that his personal choices severely cur-

tailed some of the progress that he could have made in advancing equal rights for all and other progressive initiatives. And it's unfortunate that many Republicans seemed bent on destroying his presidency. Now, the Republicans are in control, and they're accusing Senate Democrats of trying to undermine Bush by holding some Cabinet appointments — like Ashcroft — up to close scrutiny. What's ironic is that one of the duties of the Senate is to carefully examine nominees under its power to confirm presidential Cabinet appointments.

Despite the election outcome, this country remains a democracy, and one of the freedoms Americans enjoy is the right to peacefully assemble. This Saturday, in Washington, D.C. and cities across the country, people who are unhappy with the presidential outcome will gather to protest Bush's inauguration. In San Francisco, a demonstration is slated for noon in Civic Center Plaza, and hundreds of people are expected. We'll be there too, so that we can send a message to Bush that this is America, and all people are equal. ▼



Editorial

## Interregnum

by David Montoya

With the ascendancy of George W. Bush under "fuzzy" electoral and legal circumstances at best, many people across the United States and around the world are, for lack of a better word, shocked at this obviously bumbling and uninterested man's political success. Clearly, Al Gore had a lot going for him, even with President Clinton's perceived baggage. But how could Gore, a much more articulate, intelligent, and experienced politician have let the grand prize of all slip away? Even with all of the powers in Florida working against him, it should never have been close enough for Katherine Harris or Clarence Thomas to have made a difference. Monday morning quarterbacks will have the next four years to utilize the crystal clear vision that hindsight so magnificently provides.

Looking to the future, the midterm election in 2002 will be a telling predictor for the presidential contest in 2004. Of course, a lot can happen in four — or even two — years if Gore and his party want to make George W.'s presidency an anomalous Republican interregnum instead of the commencement of the Grand Old Party's new era, he will have to do a lot more than simply wait for the new president to fail. Of course, it is not entirely clear whether or not Gore wishes to run in 2004. His party may not offer him its blessing and possible Democratic rivals, Hillary Clinton being the most obviously "exciting" among them, are likely waiting in the wings. Still, just as Richard Nixon was able to gain the Republican Party's favor in 1964, even after his incredibly close loss to John F. Kennedy in 1960 and his failed bid to win the governor's

office in California in 1962, Gore certainly can make a very strong case for carrying the Democratic banner in 2004 if he chooses. That task will be aided by the fact that he won the national popular vote. If it turns out he really did win the popular vote in Florida, he is all but guaranteed another chance to run against George W. Bush in the 2004 presidential election.

One of the Democrats' greatest challenges, and one that could prove insurmountable, is the sudden absence of crossover voters in American politics. There are few remaining "Reagan Democrats" willing to vote to move the GOP forward, just as there are a noticeable lack of "moderate Republicans" prepared to break with party ranks even when their beliefs are more suited to voting for a Democrat. Add "Dim Bulb" Republican as the post-Ford/Reagan/Bush/Quayle counterpart to the "Yellow Dog" Democrat. No matter how inarticulate, out of touch, or unknowledgeable a candidate is, his apologists will inject metaphors, code words, and generous terms such as "hands off manager," "clean desk leader," and "he surrounds himself with talented people," to justify his lack of talent, intelligence, experience, and ability and to move the party's agenda ahead. In other words, Democrats have to face the reality that any great rejection of Bush as an illegitimate, unqualified, or incapable president is futile fantasy.

Rabid partisan loyalty is not new to American politics but the level of animosity members of the two major parties harbor toward each other is the worst it has been in the post-war era. Much of this negative new attitude is because the impeachment of

President Clinton has been seen as a "coup," a failed coup, but a real coup, by many Democrats. Add to that, a presidential election and its ugly aftermath that many feel Bush, his brother, and the Republican Party of his father stole from a more qualified man who actually won and those years of damage could easily wind up taking a generation or more to repair.

Unfortunately, the opposition sees it largely the same way. Even if it is proven that Gore won Florida and should be the 43rd president, it would not make an ounce of difference. Victory over truth is now the political creed. Naturally, any "proof" Gore won would likely be discounted as tainted because of who counted the ballots or how they were counted. If it turns out Bush really

won the Sunshine State, Republicans will have field day quoting their mouthpiece Rush Limbaugh's "I told you so" and Democrats will likely either discount their results or, with the rare honesty reserved solely for the vanquished, simply offer, "We just wanted to know who really won."

On January 20, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, one of the Supreme Court justices who guaranteed Bush's presidency, will swear in the new commander-in-chief before a deeply divided nation. With election irregularities to augment voter animosity that will be brewing in earnest in the years to come, Bush will have a unique opportunity to live up to his claim of being a "uniter and not a divider." Unfortunately, to many of his new constituents, his presidency will simply be a test of patience and resolve which will, if their determination is realized, be nothing more than an nepotistic interregnum. ▼

Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## Columnist from another planet

What planet is Dale Carpenter living on? ("Good riddance to President Clinton," January 11). Carpenter states that Clinton "leaves with the worst legislative record on gay issues of any president in the history of the country." Clinton has the only legislative record on gay issues of any president in the history of the country.

Carpenter needn't worry about "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." George W. Bush will probably eliminate that failed program when he reinstates the ban on gays in the military. Colin Powell, you may remember, was a strong supporter of the ban and one of the reasons we have DADT, a program which even Clinton called a failure in a recent interview in the *Advocate*.

Here, on Earth, things evolve. The fact is that although Clinton may have failed us in many ways, his inclusion of us in the public discourse has given us great strength and more confidence than ever. Enough to make us actually expect to be respected and claim our inalienable rights. It is much safer today to be out than it was eight years ago. And that is due in no small part to Clinton's courting us as a voting bloc, no matter what his motives were in doing so.

Clinton may not have been perfect for us, but at least he tried to work with us. All of his predecessors actively worked against us. Carpenter obviously forgets what it was like before Clinton, before we were part of the discussion. In a way we are still strangers at the table. We have never before been there openly and we have a lot of opposition. As a law professor, Carpenter should be more aware of the political process. It took generations of agitation before women were insured the right to vote in this country. How can we expect one president to achieve all our goals in less than one decade?

Carpenter's attitude reflects a sort of gay fundamentalism. It takes a position of moral superiority and righteousness. It then assumes that any ideas that stray, even a little, from its position are not only wrong, but evil. Our community needs to take better stock of our achievements. We need to know our goals and never lose sight of them, of course, but it is immature and irresponsible to act so disappointed when the results fall short. It just means the work is not over. It may also mean that some of us may not see the final result of our struggle. We may just have to live with that and be secure in the knowledge that we played a part in the solution.

Tim Leary  
San Francisco

## Fight military spending

In the article "Rumsfeld to head Pentagon" (*B.A.R.*, January 4), Bob Roehr speculates about how gays in the military and the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy might fare in the new Bush administration. However gays in the military might be treated, the bigger picture – and what should concern everyone – is that Donald Rumsfeld and George W. Bush support building several new, outrageously expensive weapons systems, peace treaties be damned. Already under way in the Clinton administration is the Stockpile Stewardship and Management System, an all-but-secret plan for a new, larger-than-ever nuclear arsenal. Just one element of this program, the National Ignition Facility, could cost as much as \$10 billion over several years. Rumsfeld is an ardent booster of the National Missile Defense System, which would cost at least \$60 billion if implemented and could seriously damage relations with Russia and increase the likelihood of nuclear war. Clinton increased the military budget every year and did virtually nothing to abolish nuclear weapons in eight years – 1,000 U.S. nuclear weapons are still on hair-trigger alert, ready to blow up Russia and the world.

Donald Rumsfeld is strongly opposed to any form of nuclear disarmament (including the SALT II treaty and the Comprehensive Test Ban), lobbied for the B-2 bomber and the MX missile, and refuses to back the chemical weapons convention. Both Bush and Rumsfeld are expected to continue the sanctions against Iraq and intensify aggression (read: bombing) against the country, where 1,500,000 people have already died as a result of the U.S.-led sanctions and constant bombing (often with depleted uranium).

Gays, lesbians, and transgendered people must become more aware and involved in stopping the robbery of our tax money for the military machine. The Pentagon has spent a mind-boggling \$4 trillion on nuclear weapons to date. The United States supplies weapons to 35 out of 40 conflicts in the world today, and is the largest weapons dealer in the world. The U.S. is also the biggest exporter of violent media. The U.S. spends more money on biological weapons now than any country in the world – it was Henry Kissinger who said in the late 1960s that "depopulation" should be an essential ingredient of future U.S. foreign policy – see [www.tetrahedron.org](http://www.tetrahedron.org) and the book *Emerging Viruses* by Dr. Leonard Horowitz.

We must become more vocal and demand our tax dollars be spent on sane programs like universal health care, education, affordable housing, renewable

energy, mass transportation, environmental renewal, the arts, AIDS research, child care, and employment. One way to get involved and get informed is to attend the large rally and march to protest the Bush inauguration January 20. The event, sponsored by the International Action Center (415-821-6545), starts at noon at Civic Center in San Francisco. A rally and march will be held at Saturday at 10 a.m. in Washington, D.C.

Jeffrey Powell  
San Francisco

## Compassionate lip service

On January 8, President-elect George W. Bush stood by his designee for labor secretary, Linda Chavez, and justified her breaking numerous U.S. laws in her harboring and hiring of an illegal alien in her home by calling it an act of "compassion and kindness." Indeed, Bush often speaks of "compassionate conservatism" as being a guiding principle of his plans for the presidency. Americans will soon find out if President-elect Bush is a walker, or just another talker, when it comes to compassion. If kindness and compassion are acceptable reasons for breaking the law in the case of illegal immigrants, then Bush should also support the tens of thousands of disabled American citizens whose sufferings are eased by the medical use of marijuana, justifying their necessity for breaking U.S. drug laws for the very same reasons.

True compassion requires action, not just talking the talk when it is convenient and self-serving. As a physician, I urge George W. Bush to do the right and truthful task of legalizing the compassionate medical use of marijuana for all Americans who might benefit. Doing anything less than re-scheduling marijuana for medical use is hypocritical, disingenuous, and reduces Bush's statements on compassion to nothing more than "read my lips" lip service, reminiscent of his father's presidency.

Dr. Francis A. Podrebarac  
Guerneville, California

## Columnist one-sided

I am writing to express my frustration and disappointment with Wayne Friday's weekly political column, "Our Man Friday." I became interested in Mr. Friday's column about six months ago and recently decided to discontinue reading. I have grown to see his column as less "political" and mostly "Democrat." It should be called what it really is. There is no politically objective commentary from Mr. Friday, but rather constant reinforcement of all-things-Democrat. I don't believe that this column speaks to me politically and will encourage many of my friends and colleagues to turn to other, more objective commentaries on political matters related to the gay community.

Kevin H. Avila  
San Francisco

## Who's Anita Bryant?

"Anita Bryant – you know ... that gay rights advocate." Yes, I actually heard that recently. I was on Hayes Street in San Francisco buying groceries and overheard two young lesbians discussing a poster in a shop window. One was explaining to the other who the smiling lady holding the orange in the poster was!

I had to speak up. Begging their pardon for the interruption, I explained about the rise of Christian conservatism, Dade County, the Florida orange growers and who Anita Bryant really was.

"Oh, you mean she was an enemy of gay rights," said the young couple. "We knew she had something to do with them. Thanks so much for telling us about her! We don't want to buy her poster then. Well, maybe as a dart board."

They were a little embarrassed at their cultural ignorance, but we amiably parted company with the shared hope that someday public schools would be teaching this kind of history – although it will always be important to also hear it from the people who lived through it. After all, those who do not remember their history are condemned to repeat it.

Edward Goehring  
San Francisco

## Saddened by gym closing

It is very sad to realize that the Hayes location of Muscle System will be closing on February 28. I understand the considerations of economic well-being and financial necessities that may have led to the selling of the building but I am writing to object to some of the ways this closing is being conducted. Robert (Bob) M. Landy was always a strong supporter of the gay community and for 20 years had strived to have his gyms provide the service in which gay members felt comfortable and remain free of the chain-type control.

Upon his passing, Trudy Drysolcher of Zephyr Realty, acting as trustee for Bob Landy, decided to close the Hayes Street location. She informed the staff,

next page ►

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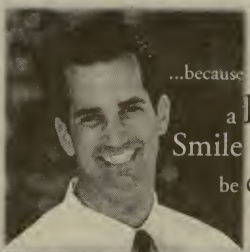
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## Mailstrom

◀ previous page

telling them that members would have the option of continuing their membership at the Market Street location or getting a refund on the unused portion of their membership fee. She also indicated there would be a severance package for the employees at the Hayes Street location that did not wish to stay with Muscle System.

Now the building has been sold and it appears that her tune has changed. In a memo, she did not indicate that members have a choice of refund. She has also not provided in writing, any indication that the employees would receive their severance package. Was any attempt made to sell the business as a gym? The business sold through Zephyr and of course, who would get the hefty commission of that sale?

I object to her handling of the closing of the Hayes Street location. I have worked out at the Market Street location and know that it will not support the membership of both gyms. Since we have not been given a choice regarding a refund, we will be forced to work out in the very cramped Market Street location.

Eddy Gordillo  
San Francisco

## Educational opportunity available

I would like to call attention to the excellent educational opportunity available to people with HIV here in San Francisco, at New College of California.

The HIV Re-entry and Empowerment Project awards educational grants to individuals with HIV who have previous college level academic credits but who have not completed a degree, and desire to do so. To date, over 50 PWAs have completed the degree completion program, receiving a bachelor of art's degree in humanities. The program is designed to be completed in one year. Classes are scheduled on weekends.

The re-entry project recently received additional funding and can now provide financial awards to individuals who wish to pursue educational goals at other California institutions.

Medical advances of recent years give cause for many PWAs to plan for a future that we once believed did not exist for us. The HIV Re-entry and Empowerment Project supports the creation of that future. To find out more about this program contact Jonathan Joiner or Bill Hershon at the empowerment project office at New College of California, 50 Fell Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. The phone number is (415) 241-1356.

Larry Pink  
Empowerment Project Graduate  
San Francisco

## New bank needed

We should have a national state bank. It would cut the cost of capital considerably. A national state bank would operate to satisfy the social need, rather than create a profit for an owner or a group of stockholders. As a result, it would be able to charge a prime rate of 2 to 2.5 percentage points lower than private banks charge. Private banks charge a prime rate of 3 percentage points. The prime rate is added to the federal funds rate, and together they are the cost of consumer loans. If the state bank makes a profit one year, it can pass it on to the consumers who produced it the next year in the form of interest-free loans.

Anthony DePalma  
The Bronx, New York

## Beware of Bush

I am paranoid about what is going to happen to us as a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community. The Thursday following the victory of George W. Bush, he called a worship service to celebrate his victory. The minister proclaimed him to be anointed by God to heal the world by being the second Moses and Jesus. The fundamentalists were expecting Jesus to return in the year 2000 and the Republicans are exploiting this. Jesus's second coming is George W. Bush. George W. Bush is going to be the Jesus of the book of Revelation, not the Jesus of the Gospels. Beware!

Douglas Alexander Matley  
San Francisco

## Stop whining

Your editorial on George W. Bush's questionable presidency was, all and all, exactly what I expected – and that's pretty unfortunate. What I expected was a slam piece that blamed Al Gore's loss of the election on any and all evil that you could identify coupled with language suggesting some far-reaching "right-wing conspiracy" (gee, where have I heard those words before). I guess I shouldn't have been disappointed. Though, I was.

The first paragraph of the editorial said a mouth full, too bad the mouth wasn't bigger. Too bad you

couldn't note for your readers that the way we have always decided presidential elections is by counting the electoral votes, not the popular vote. Gore could win the popular vote by 1,000,000 votes for all the law says, if he doesn't with the electoral vote – well guess what? He's still a loser. Your focus from the electoral vote creates a distraction that, all and all, wastes time and focus.

As for Jeb Bush taking an active interest in assisting his brother's candidacy by providing "detailed guidance" and asking citizens to consider involving themselves in the process, I say big woo! The fact of the matter is that Jeb has been given high marks by both the liberal and conservative media for how he handled himself during the entire drama. Whatever assistance he offered was provided like a brother to a brother. Nobody has even suggested that he used any authority he has as governor to affect the outcome. Of course, you all didn't either. You just hinted at it. Shame.

Then, of course, there's every "Sore/Loserman" supporter's great dark angel. The 'ole standby, Nader-bashing. What did you all call him, let's see – it was the "ego-driven do-gooder from Dupont Circle." Oh yeah, that's the ticket! Ralph Nader's 50,000 votes cost Gore the election. Yeah. Yeah. That's it!

Funny, your editorial was lengthy but it skipped completely any of the real reasons that a sitting vice president, one who worked for the most popular president in history can recall; one whose administration is associated with (and, in liberal circles, credited for) "the greatest season of prosperity this nation has ever known," lost the election. Instead of dealing with the harsh realities that:

Al Gore ran not just one of the worst campaigns since the Dukakis debacle, but also singularly the worst recount effort ever.

Al Gore failed to connect with about half of the people in the country who voted in the last election.

Al Gore took the votes of a great many people for granted, including a number of people from his very own "home state;" these folks voted for Governor Bush.

Al Gore failed to reach out to Ralph Nader, instead choosing to just ignore him, then just make fun of him.

The Supreme Court didn't lose this election for Al Gore. Al Gore lost this election for Al Gore.

The fact that you chose to promote a viewpoint that suggests otherwise just goes to prove that the "Sore/Loserman" T-shirts I bought were a great investment.

I noticed that you had fun taking shots at former Senator John Ashcroft's appointment as attorney general. That especially made me smile. I've got to say that his commitment to the pro-life movement and his Senate voting record in the area of gay rights concern me. He didn't make my list of Top 5 picks for the attorney general slot. That said, having just survived eight years of that "joke-general," otherwise known as Janet Reno – frankly, I couldn't be happier! It's gonna take somebody with a strong arm and a completely different approach to fix the Justice Department. Ashcroft might not be perfect for the job. But thank God that Bush had the good sense to err on the side of caution. A few years of Ashcroft will hardly be the undoing of all that's good in the nation.

You paper tosses around words like "hate-mongers," what I wonder have you looked in the mirror lately. As a gay black man living in San Francisco, I see a great deal of hate as I traverse San Francisco – and a lot of it is coming not from Republicans, but from liberals who've grown comfortable with their assumed sense of greatness. A friend of mine put it as "Well, it's deserved because everybody knows that Republicans are just plain evil."

Your paper seems to agree with his premise. I don't. I believe that expecting that you've got some "right" to govern is ridiculous. That's what Democrats did throughout this election, and even during the recount. It was that arrogance that cost them the White House.

Finally, you made some statement about how eventually all the Florida ballots will be counted and it will be proved that Vice President Gore actually won the election by tens of thousands of votes. Yeah, well, whatever. Here's the truth: Liberals can send the Human Rights Campaign down to Florida to count the ballots while conservatives send the Leadership Institute to count those same ballots. Care to guess what will happen? The HRC will declare that Gore won the entire state by 65 percent, and the Leadership Institute will declare just the opposite.

Seems to me that we've got a Republican White House, a Republican Senate, and a Republican House. Don't you think you'd better serve your readers by providing news and other information that would assist them with working with our government and not working around or against. Your paper is a huge voice in San Francisco politics. Consider using it to make a positive difference. Of course, if all you really want to do is use it to whine and complain about how your political party was robbed, that's okay too.

Eric Allen Bass  
San Francisco



## POLITICS

# President Clinton's Democratic Party

by Wayne Friday

**P**resident William Jefferson Clinton leaves office Saturday, January 20 with an astounding 64 percent approval rating – even higher than that of former President Ronald Reagan who left office being the most popular president in recent history. Despite his personal popularity however, Clinton leaves behind a national Democratic Party that is in worse shape than when he took office in January 1993.

When Clinton became president eight years ago, Democrats were in solid control of both houses of Congress and held a majority of governorships as well as control of a majority of state legislatures. That is no longer the case. Just two years after Clinton became president the Democrats lost their congressional majority and this week the Democratic Party gives up the presidency. While some would argue that Clinton actually saved the Democratic Party by taking it to the political center, and while he surely mobilized the party's base with African American voters, gay and lesbian voters, and other minorities, others would argue that the Democratic Party, after eight years of the Clinton presidency, is at a crossroads.

Indeed, as Clinton prepares this week to turn over the government to a conservative Republican, many Democratic strategists are trying to figure out what went wrong with their party and are attempting to craft a political strategy that might win back the Congress in 2002 and retake the presidency in 2004. Some would have the Democratic Party go back to the liberal days of **George McGovern**; others feel that the centrist middle that Clinton espoused is still the way to go. Clearly, the Democrats are divided and as they watch **George W. Bush** take office this week; the party of **Thomas Jefferson**, **Franklin Roosevelt**, **John Kennedy**, and Clinton will be seeking a direction, one that can bring back one of the party's strongest allies, labor, some of whose members have turned Republican.

Clinton and other Democratic leaders now have to figure out how to hold groups like labor, the increasingly powerful African American constituency, and other minorities like Hispanics, Asians, and gays and lesbians – as well as reach out to those Republicans who have no desire to go back to the Goldwater era under the likes of Bush, **Dick Cheney**, and their right wing allies. Democrats will become the majority party again only when they find the new unifying issue that clearly differentiates them from the policies that Bush appears bent on bringing to Washington.

Clinton remains hugely popular personally, but having now lost control of Congress and the presidency, the Democratic Party must come with a new political strategy – and new leaders to implement that strategy. Names of Democrats like Senators **Joseph Biden** (Delaware), **Joe Lieberman** (Connecticut), **Evan Bayh** (Indiana), **John Edwards** (North



Bill Clinton during a 1999 speech to the Anti-Defamation League in which he talked about the importance of passing hate crimes legislation.

Carolina), **Dianne Feinstein** (California) and, yes, **Hillary Rodham Clinton** of New York come to mind as the national Democratic Party looks to those who seem best qualified to regain control of the Congress, the White House, and once again become the nation's majority party.

Meanwhile, Clinton leaves the presidency on Saturday and as one who has frequently criticized the man, I'd like to

say, good luck, Mr. President, and yes, Bill, we miss you already.

## Politics and people

The confirmation hearings of Attorney General-designate **John Ashcroft** continue as civil rights groups mobilize to oppose Bush's most controversial nomination. Both as Missouri's attorney general and governor, Ashcroft aggressively opposed such basic civil rights as school desegregation. Ashcroft's long record of homophobia, racism, and religious right wing views makes the man unacceptable to become attorney general. California Senator **Barbara Boxer** (D) last week became the first senator to publicly oppose Ashcroft's nomination; Senator Feinstein should do likewise. Please contact Senator Feinstein today at (415) 393-0707 or (202) 224-3841, or e-mail her at: [Senator@Feinstein.senate.org](mailto:Senator@Feinstein.senate.org), and urge her to oppose Ashcroft's confirmation.

Well, it's coming down to this – Saturday, at 8:30 a.m. California time, the inauguration ceremony for George W. Bush will take place coming direct from the Capitol and the National Mall. Thousands of Republican celebrants – including five particular members of the U.S. Supreme Court (you there, Justice **Sandra Day O'Connor**) – will no doubt have preferred seating; Chief Justice **William H. Rehnquist** will administer the oath of office.

Former California Secretary of State **March Fong Eu** announced this week that she plans to run again for that office in 2002. Eu, 78, a Democrat, was first elected to the state Assembly in 1966 from Oakland, and served four years in the Legislature before winning the secretary of state's office; she was the first woman elected to that office and the first American of Chinese ancestry to hold a constitutional office in California. **Bill Jones**, the Republican incumbent

secretary of state, cannot run again due to term limits.

Those keeping an eye on Board of Supes President **Tom Ammiano** at City Hall are convinced he is a sure bet to run either for Assemblywoman **Carole Migden**'s seat in two years when she is termed out or try for another shot at the mayor's office in three years; Ammiano's political fortunes couldn't be higher than they are at the moment.

Meanwhile, according to the *San Francisco Chronicle's* **Phil Matier** and **Andy Ross**, District Attorney **Terence Hallinan** actually thinks he could be elected mayor of San Francisco; has **Woody Harrelson** been back in town again?

I like the column, but how long does the *San Francisco Examiner* think it can keep the identity of "P.J. Corkery" under wraps?

As a longtime member of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, I can tell them they've got it all wrong when they use their newsletter to trash elected Demo Country Central Committee members for openly backing District 5 Supervisor **Matt Gonzalez** over **Juanita Owens** in the recent runoff. I liked Owens in that race, too, but it is a nonpartisan race and to suggest they should somehow be punished is silly.

And as George W. Bush prepares to take office I've yet to hear of any celebratory parties being given for or by the gay and lesbian Republicans who supported his candidacy. Gotta wonder how many same-sex couples will be spotted dancing at the numerous inaugural balls Saturday; hell, how many were even invited? And to those gay and lesbian Log Cabin Republicans who assured us that George W. was "reaching out" to the community, the first test will be when we see if Bush keeps President Clinton's executive order prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in the federal government or whether he refuses to renew it, thereby appeasing the anti-gay right wing of his party. I'll be waiting to see what excuse the Log Cabin members comes up with if Bush does not renew the all-important executive order.

My "quote of the week" (from President Clinton, in his most pointed observation on the election since it was ended by the Supreme Court, to a crowd in Chicago): "By the time it was over, our candidate had won the popular vote and the only way they could win the election was to stop the voting [counting] in Florida."

And how was your week? ▼



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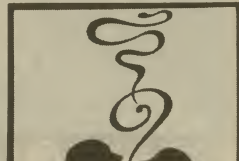


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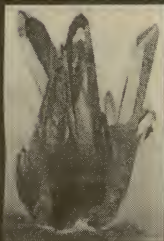
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# Political perspective on changes in Washington

by Paula Martinac

The queer left and right have been tossing out predictions about how George W. Bush's administration will affect the lesbian and gay community. On the eve of his inauguration, we could all use some political and historical perspective on the position of lesbians and gay men vis-a-vis Washington's changing faces.

On the queer left, forecasts about Bush have varied from doom and gloom to cautious reserve. In the *Village Voice*, Richard Goldstein predicted that Bush and the Republican-dominated Congress will engage in "mannerly oppression" — charming the public's socks off with talk of compassion while slowly and methodically stripping away the civil rights of gay people and women. In contrast, Evan Wolfson of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund told Goldstein in another issue of the *Voice* that, although Bush's record is indeed anti-gay, the next four years will probably be "more of a delay than a setback for gay rights."

On the gay right, Rich Tafel, executive director of the Log Cabin Republicans, has made Pollyanna-ish predictions about Bush. In an interview last fall with one of Washington's gay newspapers, *Metro Weekly*, Tafel touted Bush as a potential hero to gay people who might even lift the military ban. Tafel's questionable reasoning centered on the notion that, because Clinton and a Democratic Congress gave us "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," it would be a Republican administration that would rid us of it. But he did not specify what Republicans might replace the policy with, such as a return to a complete ban. Then again, Tafel occasionally suffers from a bad case of dyslexic perception. He has also repeatedly exalted Bush as "the first Republican president to actively reach out to gay and lesbian Americans," when, in fact, LCR had to lasso Bush into a back-room meeting last spring.

The truth is, with Bush's Cabinet appointments running the gamut from right-wing John Ashcroft to pro-choice Christine Todd Whitman, the progress of lesbian and gay civil rights under the next president is impossible to

predict. It's a comfort, then, that in the middle of all the debate about how the next four years will play out, a new anthology titled *Creating Change: Sexuality, Public Policy, and Civil Rights* has been published, shedding light on how our movement made gains in the past and how we can attempt to

continue going forward if Bush turns out to be more conservative than compassionate.

Edited by historians John D'Emilio and William B. Turner and by former National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute Director Urvashi

Vaid, *Creating Change* gathers together essays by academics and activists on the accomplishments and setbacks of the lesbian and gay movement since the Stonewall riots of 1969.

Although it glances at local activism, the book's main focus is how we've fared in the making of federal public policy.

**Rich Tafel, executive director of the Log Cabin Republicans, has made Pollyanna-ish predictions about Bush. In an interview last fall with one of Washington's gay newspapers, Tafel touted Bush as a potential hero to gay people who might even lift the military ban.**

What the historical record clearly shows is that, through hard work and persistence, lesbians and gay men have been able to bring about significant social change even under "dauntingly unfavorable political conditions" — including four Republican presidents. It's worth considering that the Stonewall riots of 1969 took place during Richard Nixon's first year in office. We should recall, too, that it was the anti-gay animus of Ronald Reagan's administration that forced us into action to fight AIDS and to build strong, local queer communities. And we should never forget that, despite the significant gay-friendly tone Bill Clinton set, his watch gave us "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and the Defense of Marriage Act.

*Creating Change* also overviews

other shifts in Washington — like changes in the makeup of Supreme Court and of Congress, for example — that have had profound effects on the lesbian and gay movement. In two particularly illuminating essays, veteran activist Jean O'Leary and Tafel outline the relationship between the gay community and the Democratic and Republican parties, respectively. Those of us (myself included) with a haughty disdain for the Republican Party may find it helpful to realize that the Democrats had a very long road to travel before they became gay-inclusive.

Admirably, the book suggests that we aren't just balls in some political tennis match and that blame for what we haven't accomplished sometimes lies squarely at our own feet. Why couldn't our community, for example, effectively tackle the public "shower phobia" raised by the gays in the military imbroglio of 1993? And the four times we've marched on Washington, why didn't more of us engage in lobbying our con-

gresspeople instead of leaving the task to a handful of our leaders? We've missed opportunities the Christian right never would.

Finally, what struck me most as I read *Creating Change* is how hard it is to maintain perspective when you're in the middle of a social revolution and how hard it is to wait for full equality when you keep encountering setbacks. But, as the editors of this fine volume remind us, a movement's success is often measured in its sheer staying power. ▼

Paula Martinac is the author of seven books. She can be reached care of this publication or at [LNcolumn@aol.com](mailto:LNcolumn@aol.com). For more *Lesbian Notions*, visit [www.planetout.com](http://www.planetout.com).

## Project Inform seeks volunteers for hotline

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco-based Project Inform is seeking volunteers for its national HIV/AIDS treatment hotline training. The three-day training starts this Wednesday, January 24 (5:30-9 p.m.) and continues next Saturday and Sunday, January 27 and 28 (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

Hotline operators are required to commit to at least one three-hour shift per week for a minimum of six months. The shifts occur during business hours Monday through Friday and on Saturdays.

Mark Owens, Project Inform's

volunteer and intern services manager, noted that hotline volunteers often find the experience rewarding. A dedicated group of about 45 volunteers currently staff Project Inform's national HIV/AIDS treatment hotline. Volunteers answer phone calls, provide HIV treatment information, and give callers support in developing effective treatment strategies, including how to access treatment, and provide referrals to other organizations providing critical services to HIV-positive people.

Project Inform receives approximately 35,000 calls a year from women, men, youth, transgenders, and people of color who

are HIV-positive; doctors, nurses, service providers, and social workers; and family and friends of people with HIV. More than 30 percent of hotline calls are from people of color, Owens said.

He added that due to the increasing number of callers seeking Spanish-language services, Project Inform encourages bilingual Spanish-English volunteers to apply. Information about Project Inform is available on the Web at [www.projectinform.org](http://www.projectinform.org). People interested in attending the hotline training must pre-register by calling Owens at (415) 558-8669, ext. 218 or by e-mail at [volunteer@projectinform.org](mailto:volunteer@projectinform.org). ▼



## HISTORY LESSON

# What was the 'Letter from Huey'?

by Rawley Grau

In the months following the Stonewall riots of June 1969, the fledgling gay liberation movement sought to form alliances with other progressive movements. But New Left groups were usually no less homophobic than the rest of the country and were often embarrassed when gays and lesbians carried banners at their demonstrations.

A breakthrough came, however, in the summer of 1970, when Black Panther Party Supreme Commander Huey P. Newton issued a statement in support of gay and lesbian equality. Not only was his the first pro-gay pronouncement to come from the black civil rights movement, it was the first such statement to come from any nationally known heterosexual activist of the time.

"A Letter from Huey to the Revolutionary Brothers and Sisters About the Women's Liberation and Gay Liberation Movements," published August 21, 1970, in the party's newspaper, the *Black Panther*, was as much a reprimand to fellow Panthers for their homophobia and sexism as it was a call for coalition.

"As we all know," Newton wrote, "sometimes our first instinct is to want to hit a homosexual in the mouth and want a woman to be quiet. We want to hit a homosexual in the mouth because we're afraid we might be homosexual; and we want to hit the woman or shut her up because we're afraid that she might castrate us, or take the nuts that we might not have to start with." The remedy, he said, is to "gain security in ourselves and therefore have respect and feelings for all oppressed people."

Admitting that the party had failed to consider gay issues, Newton made an observation that must have astonished many of his comrades-in-arms: "Homosexuals are not given freedom and liberty by anyone in the society. Maybe they might be the most oppressed people in the society."

Newton also addressed what had become a particularly sore point for gay activists: "The terms 'faggot' and 'punk' should be deleted from our vocabulary, and especially we should not attach names normally designed for homosexuals to men who are enemies of the people, such as [President] Nixon or [U.S. Attorney General George] Mitchell."

The relationship between gay

activists and the Black Panthers, who advocated violent revolution as the only way to win justice for African Americans, had been a stormy one. Even radical gay men and lesbians could not help but be offended by statements such as those of Eldridge Cleaver, who called on Panther sisters to exercise "pussy power" by withholding sex to force their men to get politically involved. "I don't know how you can stand to have them faggots layin' and suckin' on you," he said. "You can always have a real man."

The Gay Liberation Front's support of the Panthers had already caused a split among gay activists, but even the GLF was vocal in

its criticism of the Panthers' homophobia. A few months before Newton's statement, at a May Day rally at Yale University where some 25,000 people gathered to demand the release of the incarcerated Panther leader Bobby Seale, the GLF's Jim Fouratt called on radical leftists to stop using the word "faggot" to describe their enemies and to confront their own bias against gays: "We demand that you treat us as revolutionaries."

Another speaker at the Yale rally was the gay French writer Jean Genet, who had come to the United States to win support for the Panthers among American intellectuals. Although Genet didn't publicly discuss gay issues during his visit, he did discuss homosexuality privately with his Panther hosts. Like Fouratt, he objected to their use of the word "faggot." According to his biographer Edmund White, Genet's comments are what prompted Newton's statement on gay liberation.

While the gay left was thrilled by the "Letter from Huey," others in the movement were disparag-

ing. "So Huey Newton wants to be friends," editor Don Michaels wrote in the *Advocate*. "Sorry, Huey, but somehow this fails to elate us. ... In fact, we see much more hope [in trying to change the system gradually] than in violence and destruction."

The promise of Newton's statement was not immediately borne out. Both male and female GLFers attended the Panther-sponsored Revolutionary People's Constitutional Convention, which took place in Philadelphia just weeks after the letter was published. Although the gay men were generally positive about the event and issued a statement hailing the Black Panther Party as "the vanguard of the people's revolution," the lesbians found the experience disheartening and felt that women's issues were not being taken seriously. Significantly, Newton made no mention in his plenary address of either gay or women's liberation.

Still, the historic nature of the "Letter from Huey" should not be discounted. As lesbian writer Jewelle Gomez has noted, "The importance of Newton's statement lay not in the groundswell of support that it failed to promote, but in its simple recognition that alliances must be formed if social justice is to be attained."

More than a dozen years would pass before black civil rights leaders – notably, the more mainstream Coretta Scott King and Jesse Jackson – would again consider forming a coalition with gay rights groups. ▼

Rawley Grau has won four Vice Versa Awards for his writing on gay and lesbian culture. He can be reached at [GayNestor@aol.com](mailto:GayNestor@aol.com). For more Past Out, visit [www.planetout.com](http://www.planetout.com).

## Stop AIDS

◀ page 3

the community," said Leifield. "We started doing interviews with key community opinion leaders in 1997," getting ideas on what specific segments of the community felt they needed to help them maintain safe behaviors.

Also in the last few years, the project has expanded to five offices, including outreach offices in the Castro, the Polk and the South of Market neighborhoods.

"By actually being in the different neighborhoods, we were hearing from guys who hadn't contacted us in the past. These conversations led to the development of several initiatives, most notably the 'Working Boys' project for young hustlers, and the 'LeatherFUCK' workshops for those looking to safely explore that scene," Leifield said.

### Drugs, alcohol, and self-esteem

Leifield, 46, is hopeful about the future, remembering that the gay community has pulled it together before to change community behaviors around safer sex. Still, he noted that while recent surveys have indicated that perhaps 60 percent of gay men practice safer sex; that number was 70 percent three years ago.

"If by the end of this year, it's under 50 percent, we're going to be in trouble."

Leifield is reluctant to oversimplify the causes for relapse around safer sex in the community.

"Crystal is part of it, and so is alcohol," Leifield said. "And so is 'being in the moment,' making assumptions about a partner's serostatus, or not taking the time to think about possible consequences."

And so are lingering issues around that old timeless bugaboo that continues to plague gay and bisexual men: low self-esteem.

"I think it's a big part of it, and not just with sex," Leifield said. "After a whole lifetime of being put down or having a sense that 'I'm not worthy,' this remains a fundamental challenge for men trying to maintain their HIV-negative serostatus." ▼

"Fare with Flair," a reception in honor of Leifield and the friends and volunteers of the Stop AIDS Project will be hosted by the group's board of directors on Friday, January 26, from 6-9 p.m. in the Julia Morgan Ballroom of the Merchant Exchange Building at 465 California Street, 15th Floor. A \$50 donation is suggested. For more info, call (415) 575-0150, ext. 260.



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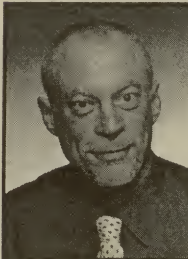


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### Suggested reading

Deitcher, David, ed., 1995. *The Question of Equality: Lesbian and Gay Politics in America Since Stonewall*. New York: Scribner.

Jones, Charles E., ed., 1998. *The Black Panther Party (Reconsidered)*. Baltimore: Black Classic Press.

Teal, Donn, 1971. *The Gay Militants: How Gay Liberation Began in America, 1969-1971*. New York: Stein and Day (republished, New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995).



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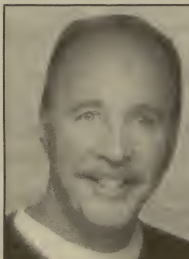
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# Benecke to leave SLDN

by Bob Roehr

Michelle Benecke is stepping down as co-director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, an organization she co-founded in 1993. Over those years SLDN has directly assisted more than 2,500 men and women caught in the travesty of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." It has won more than 30 improvements in the way that the Pentagon carries out its anti-gay policy.

Much of the credit for those successes goes to Benecke, though she is quick to call it a team effort and lavish praise on her colleagues. There is no question that she is bright and dedicated, but those traits are held in check, put to service of the mission, not Benecke herself. She has self-assurance and self-confidence without a trace of arrogance.

### Making an officer

The Army is in Benecke's blood. Her father was a career man, a master sergeant. She grew up "a military brat" moving from base to base, spending most of her high school years in Germany. An ROTC scholarship paid her way through the University of Virginia where she "struggled for a while" with her sexual orientation, only fully coming to terms with it a few years later.

The U.S. moved to an all-volunteer Army in the 1970s, which opened up opportunities for women. Still, the pace of change was slow, hemmed in by both law and tradition when she pinned on her lieutenant's bars in 1983. Benecke chose air defense artillery, as close to front line combat as women were allowed. She was among the first women trained in that specialty. Over the next six years she rose to the rank of captain and command of a Hawk anti-aircraft missile battery.

Benecke was headed for law school with Uncle Sam picking up the tab. An officer had some discretion in ignoring the Pentagon's ban on gays in the military, but "as a lawyer working for the commander, I would have to enforce the policy," she said. "I felt a real ethical tension." Her solution was to turn down the agreement and plan to get out of the service.

Things would not be so simple. She was home on leave for her sister's nuptials, "dressed in a frou-frou wedding party gown" and about to step into a limousine to the ceremony when the phone rang. The Army's Criminal Investigations Division had pulled her troops out of their barracks at Fort Bliss, near El Paso, Texas, asking if she were a lesbian. There was no evidence, simply the charge that nearly every successful woman in the Army faced at one time or another.

"I asked myself, what would I do if I were straight?" Benecke said. As soon as she got back to base she marched into the commander's office and expressed her outrage. He was equally upset, in part because CID had been doing this without telling him. The investigation was pulled from CID and given to an inquiry officer.

Benecke could find no civilian lawyer to help defend her against the witch-hunt. "I ultimately survived because I knew my legal rights" and had a commander who was fair-minded. The experience crystallized an idea that had been growing in her mind, and would shape her life work for more than a decade.



SLDN's Michelle Benecke

### Next battles

Harvard Law School was a bit of a "culture shock" for the daughter of an enlisted man, now among the cultural elite. But she adapted to the new environment. Miriam Ben Shalom's constitutional legal challenge to being discharged from the Army for being a lesbian was wending its way to the U.S. Supreme Court. It led Benecke to research the stories of women in the military.

She found that the charge of lesbianism was a common tactic "used to try and hound women out of the military service." Working with fellow law student Kirstin Dodge, they framed it in a broader context of feminism, as an attack against women who were succeeding in non-traditional roles, or who fought sexual harassment. It did not matter if the woman was gay or straight, the charge was hurled to try to discredit her accomplishments.

The pair wrote a seminal article on the subject, "Women in Nontraditional Fields: Casualties of the Armed Forces' War on Homosexuals" that appeared in the 1990 *Harvard Women's Law Journal*.

That experience deepened Benecke's commitment to the idea of forming a legal aid group dedicated to helping victims of anti-gay witch-hunts in the military defend themselves. So too did the gay bashing of Navy seaman Alan Schindler by a shipmate in Japan in 1992, and the Pentagon's attempts to downplay the murder. Schindler had gone to his commander saying that he felt threatened and unsafe, but nothing had been done to help him.

Gays in the military erupted into a national issue only days after Bill Clinton was sworn in as president in 1993. The gay community reacted by forming the Campaign for Military Service, a coalition to coordinate their efforts on the controversy. Benecke, a freshly minted attorney, served as a consultant to CMS. There she met C. Dixon Osburn, a young graduate of Georgetown University Law Center.

By April it was obvious to all that Clinton had abandoned his attempt to lift the regulatory ban on gays and lesbians serving in the military. The "compromise" that was codified into law in July became known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." It purported to allow gays to serve in the military, so long as they hid the fact that they were gay.

### The SLDN years

"Dixon and I saw ourselves at a fork in the road," said Benecke. "The door had been cracked open. For the first time law firms and the media" had shown an in-

terest in the persecution that gays and lesbians faced while serving their country. The pair knew that the military was not going to change unless it was watched and unless legal assistance was provided to the men and women caught up in the web of homophobia.

"We knew it was going to be tough and it didn't fit anyone else's mission," she said. The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund was supporting legal constitutional challenges to the gay ban. But those were a select few cases; Lambda had neither the resources nor the inclination to provide legal assistance for the many garden variety cases of anti-gay harassment reported on a day to day basis.

Benecke and Osburn decided to establish the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network "to lay the foundation to bring about the day to overturn this law [DADT]." In the interim, they "wanted to create a place where people could go if they needed help."

The National Veterans Legal Services Project lent them a tiny room that barely held desks for the two of them and a few file cabinets. There was no seed money, only the checkbooks of the two recent law school grads who had their own bills to pay. They thought they would give themselves three months to set up the organization. But the doors opened only a few weeks later, in August 1993, "on a wing and a prayer." And the phone began ringing "almost from day one."

The duo caught the Pentagon "trying to erase the right to remain silent or ask for an attorney" when under investigation for homosexual conduct. The brass "tried to make a gay exception," said Benecke.

They created an annual report, "Conduct Unbecoming," that documented the rise in anti-gay harassment and expulsions under DADT as carried out by the Clinton administration. Its spring release became a reason for the media to reexamine the failed policy on a yearly basis.

And they helped service members with legal assistance and local referrals whenever the phone rang. Among them was submariner Timothy McVeigh. The Navy tried to expel him based only on a screen profile with America Online that they had obtained in violation of their own procedures and federal law. A federal judge slapped the Navy's collective wrist and ordered McVeigh retained. AOL strengthened its confidentiality procedures.

"It is shameful that it took Barry Winchell's murder [at Fort Campbell, Kentucky in July 1999] before military leaders took the issue of stopping anti-gay harassment seriously," said Benecke. But the changes in regulations and implementation made since then have been significant.

Fort Campbell commander Major General Robert Clark asserted that there were no problems of anti-gay harassment at the base, despite testimony to the contrary during the trials of Winchell's murderers. Public and political pressure assured that Clark did not get an anticipated promotion. Benecke said, "That sent a message to every general officer" that there would be a price to pay for tolerating anti-gay harassment in their command.

### Reflections

"When I served [in the Army],  
page 19 ►



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### WARNING

**FATAL AND NONFATAL PANCREATITIS HAVE OCCURRED DURING THERAPY WITH DIDANOSINE USED ALONE OR IN COMBINATION REGIMENS IN BOTH TREATMENT-NAIVE AND TREATMENT-EXPERIENCED PATIENTS, REGARDLESS OF DEGREE OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSION. VIDEX EC SHOULD BE SUSPENDED IN PATIENTS WITH SUSPECTED PANCREATITIS AND DISCONTINUED IN PATIENTS WITH CONFIRMED PANCREATITIS (see WARNINGS).**

**LACTIC ACIDOSIS AND SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS, INCLUDING FATAL CASES, HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH THE USE OF NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES ALONE OR IN COMBINATION, INCLUDING DIDANOSINE AND OTHER ANTIRETROVIRALS (see WARNINGS).**

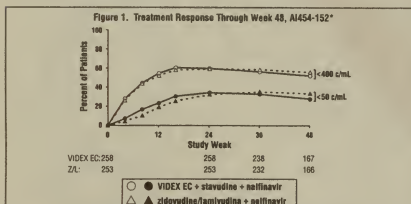
### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

VIDEX EC in combination with other antiretroviral agents is indicated for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in adults whose management requires once-daily administration of didanosine or an alternative didanosine formulation. (See Clinical Studies, PRECAUTIONS: Frequency of Dosing, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.)

There are limited data to date to support the long-term durability of response with a once-daily dosing regimen of didanosine.

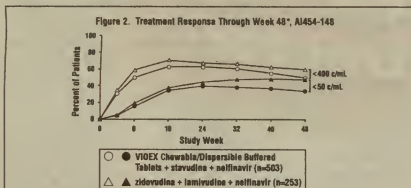
**Clinical Studies:** Once-daily dosing of didanosine produces a pharmacokinetic profile that is substantially different from that observed with twice-daily dosing of didanosine (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY in full prescribing information). Further, VIDEX EC and the VIDEX (didanosine) buffered formulation produce substantially different pharmacokinetic profiles when dosed once daily. Therefore, controlled clinical trials were conducted with both formulations to evaluate the safety and efficacy of once-daily dosing of didanosine. There is no available long-term clinical information that directly compares the efficacy of the two once-daily didanosine formulations. A small clinical study that was conducted to address this issue was not interpretable due to the small number of patients who completed the study.

**Once-Daily VIDEX EC Study:** Study A154-152 is an ongoing, 48-week, randomized, open-label study comparing VIDEX EC (400 mg once daily) plus stavudine (40 mg twice daily) plus zalcitabine (750 mg three times daily) to zidovudine (200 mg twice daily) plus lamivudine (150 mg twice daily) combination tablets plus nevirapine (750 mg three times daily) in 511 treatment-naïve patients, with a mean CD4 cell count of 411 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> (range 38 to 1165 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>) and a mean plasma HIV-1 RNA of 4.71 log<sub>10</sub> copies/mL (range 2.8 to 5.9 log<sub>10</sub> copies/mL) at baseline. Patients were primarily males (72%) and Caucasian (53%) with a mean age of 35 years (range 18 to 73 years). The percentages of patients with HIV RNA <400 and <50 copies/mL and not meeting any criteria for treatment failure (e.g., virologic failure, discontinuation for any reason, or AIDS-defining event) through 48 weeks are shown in Figure 1.



\* This analysis includes all randomized patients through Week 24 and after that point is restricted to patients whose randomization date allows for 36 or 48 weeks of follow-up. The number of patients at each point is indicated below the figure.

**Once-Daily VIDEX Buffered Tablet Study:** Study A154-149 was a randomized, open-label, multicenter study comparing treatment with VIDEX Chewable/Dispersible Beadlets (400 mg plus stavudine (40 mg twice daily) and nevirapine (750 mg three times daily) versus zidovudine (300 mg twice daily) plus lamivudine (150 mg twice daily) and nevirapine (750 mg three times daily) in 756 treatment-naïve patients, with a mean CD4 cell count of 368 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> (range 80 to 1165 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>) and a mean plasma HIV-1 RNA of 4.69 log<sub>10</sub> copies/mL (range 2.6 to 5.9 log<sub>10</sub> copies/mL) at baseline. The percentages of patients with HIV RNA <400 and <50 copies/mL and not meeting any criteria for treatment failure through 48 weeks are shown in Figure 2.



\* Percent of patients at each time point who have HIV RNA <400 and <50 copies/mL, are on their original study medication (except stavudine/zidovudine switched), and have not experienced an AIDS-defining event. For the differences between treatment without dose adjustment.

**CONTRAINDICATION**  
VIDEX EC is contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity to any component of the formulation.

### WARNINGS

#### 1. Pancreatitis

**FATAL AND NONFATAL PANCREATITIS HAVE OCCURRED DURING THERAPY WITH DIDANOSINE USED ALONE OR IN COMBINATION REGIMENS IN BOTH TREATMENT-NAIVE AND TREATMENT-EXPERIENCED PATIENTS, REGARDLESS OF DEGREE OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSION. VIDEX EC SHOULD BE SUSPENDED IN PATIENTS WITH SUSPECTED PANCREATITIS AND DISCONTINUED IN PATIENTS WITH CONFIRMED PANCREATITIS. PATIENTS TREATED WITH VIDEX EC IN COMBINATION WITH STAVUDINE, WITH OR WITHOUT ZIDOVUDINE, MAY BE AT INCREASED RISK FOR PANCREATITIS.**

When treatment with life-sustaining drugs known to cause pancreatic toxicity is required, suspension of VIDEX EC therapy is recommended. In patients with risk factors for pancreatitis, VIDEX EC should be used with extreme caution and only if clearly indicated. Patients with advanced HIV infection, especially the elderly, are at increased risk of pancreatitis and should be followed closely. Patients with renal impairment may be at greater risk for pancreatitis if treated without dose adjustment.

The frequency of pancreatitis is dose related. In phase 3 studies with buffered formulations of didanosine, incidence ranged from 1% to 10% with doses higher than are currently recommended and 1% to 7% with recommended doses.

**2. Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis**  
Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including didanosine and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. Particular caution should be exercised when administering VIDEX EC to any patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with VIDEX EC should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations).

#### 3. Retinal Changes and Optic Neuritis

Retinal changes and optic neuritis have been reported in patients taking didanosine. Periodic retinal examinations should be considered for patients receiving VIDEX EC. (See ADVERSE REACTIONS.)

### PRECAUTIONS

**Frequency of Dosing:** VIDEX EC should only be administered once daily. There are no data on the use of VIDEX EC dosed more frequently than once daily.

There are limited data to support the long-term durability of response with a once-daily dosing regimen of didanosine. Therefore, the preferred didanosine dosing regimen is twice daily with a VIDEX buffered formulation. Once-daily dosing with VIDEX EC should be considered only for adult patients whose management requires once-daily administration of didanosine or an alternative didanosine formulation (see Clinical Studies). Consult the prescribing information for VIDEX buffered formulations and Pediatric Powder for Oral Solution for information on twice-daily dosing.

VIDEX EC should be taken on an empty stomach.

**Peripheral Neuropathy:** Peripheral neuropathy, manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the hands or feet, has been reported in patients receiving didanosine therapy. Peripheral neuropathy has occurred more frequently in patients with advanced HIV disease, in patients with a history of neuropathy, or in patients being treated with neurotoxic drug therapy, including stavudine (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

### General

**Patients with Renal Impairment:** Patients with renal impairment (creatinine clearance <60 mL/min) may be at greater risk of toxicity from didanosine due to decreased clearance (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY in full prescribing information). A dose reduction is recommended in these patients (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

**Patients with Hepatic Impairment:** It is unknown if hepatic impairment significantly affects didanosine pharmacokinetics. Therefore, these patients should be monitored closely for evidence of didanosine toxicity.

### R ONLY

**Hyperuricemia:** Didanosine has been associated with asymptomatic hyperuricemia; treatment suspension may be necessary if clinical measures aimed at reducing uric acid levels fail.

**Information for Patients (see Patient Information Leaflet in full prescribing information):**

Patients should be informed that a serious toxicity of didanosine, used alone and in combination regimens, is pancreatitis, which may be fatal.

Patients should also be aware that peripheral neuropathy, manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in hands or feet, may develop during therapy with VIDEX EC (didanosine). Patients should be counseled that peripheral neuropathy occurs with greatest frequency in patients with advanced HIV disease or a history of peripheral neuropathy, and that dose modification and/or discontinuation of VIDEX EC may be required if toxicity develops.

Patients should be informed that when didanosine is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of adverse events may be higher than when didanosine is used alone.

Patients should be cautioned about the use of medications or other substances, including alcohol, that may exacerbate VIDEX EC toxicities.

Patients should be informed that the preferred didanosine dosing regimen is twice daily with a VIDEX (didanosine) buffered formulation because there are limited data to support the long-term durability of response with a once-daily regimen.

VIDEX EC is not a cure for HIV infection, and patients may continue to develop HIV-associated illnesses, including opportunistic infection. Therefore, patients should remain under the care of a physician when using VIDEX EC. Patients should be advised that VIDEX EC therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of VIDEX EC are unknown at this time.

**Drug Interactions (see also CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Drug Interactions in full prescribing information):**

Drug interactions that have been established based on drug interaction studies are listed with the pharmacokinetic results in CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Drug Interactions (Tables 3-5) in full prescribing information. The clinical recommendations based on the results of these studies are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1**  
Established Drug Interactions with VIDEX EC with Buffered Formulations of Didanosine and Expected to Occur with VIDEX EC

**Concomitant Not Recommended Based on Drug Interaction Studies (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Drug Interactions, in full prescribing information for Magnitude of Interaction)**

Drug	Effect	Clinical Comment
allopurinol	↑ didanosine concentration	Concomitance not recommended.

**Alteration in Dose or Regimen Recommended Based on Drug Interaction Studies (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Drug Interactions, in full prescribing information for Magnitude of Interaction)**

Drug	Effect	Clinical Comment
ganciclovir	↑ didanosine concentration	Appropriate doses for this combination, with respect to efficacy and safety, have not been established.

Drug	Effect	Clinical Comment
methadone	↓ didanosine concentration	Appropriate doses for this combination, with respect to efficacy and safety, have not been established.

↑ indicates increase.  
↓ indicates decrease.

**Concomitance of VIDEX EC with drugs that are known to cause pancreatitis may increase the risk of this toxicity (see WARNINGS: Pancreatitis). Predicted drug interactions with VIDEX EC are listed in Table 2.**

**Table 2**  
Predicted Drug Interactions with VIDEX EC

**Use with Caution, Risk of Adverse Reactions May Be Increased**

Drug Class	Effect	Clinical Comment
Drugs that may cause pancreatic toxicity	↑ risk of pancreatitis	Use only with extreme caution. <sup>a</sup>

Drug Class	Effect	Clinical Comment
Neurotoxic drugs	↑ risk of neuropathy	Use with caution. <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Indicates increase.  
<sup>b</sup> Only if other drugs are not available and if clearly indicated. If treatment with life-sustaining drugs that cause pancreatic toxicity is required, suspension of VIDEX EC is recommended (see WARNINGS: Pancreatitis).

**See PRECAUTIONS: Peripheral Neuropathy.**

**Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis:** Lifetime carcinogenicity studies were conducted in mice and rats for 22 and 24 months, respectively. In the mouse study, initial doses of 120, 800, and 1200 mg/kg/day for each sex were lowered after 8 months to 120, 210, and 210 mg/kg/day for females and 120, 300, and 600 mg/kg/day for males. The two higher doses exceeded the maximally tolerated dose in females and the high dose exceeded the maximally tolerated dose in males. The low dose in females represented 0.68-fold maximum human exposure and the intermediate dose in males represented 1.7-fold maximum human exposure based on relative AUC comparisons. In the rat study, initial doses were 100, 250, and 1000 mg/kg/day, and the high dose was lowered to 500 mg/kg/day after 18 months. The upper dose in male and female rats represented 3.4-fold maximum human exposure.

Didanosine induced no significant increase in neoplastic lesions in mice or rats at maximally tolerated doses.

Didanosine was positive in the following genetic toxicology assays: 1) the *Escherichia coli* tester strain WP2 uvr bacterial mutagenicity assay; 2) the L5178Y/T4+ mouse lymphoma mammalian cell gene mutation assay; 3) the *in vitro* chromosomal aberrations assay in cultured human peripheral lymphocytes; and 4) the *in vitro* chromosomal aberrations assay in Chinese Hamster Lung cells; and 5) the BALB/c 3T3 *in vitro* transformation assay. No evidence of mutagenicity was observed in Ames *Salmonella* bacterial mutagenicity assay or in rat and mouse *in vivo* micronucleus assays.

**Pregnancy, Reproduction and Fertility:** Pregnancy "Category B." Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits at doses up to 12 and 14.2 times the estimated human exposure (based upon plasma levels), respectively, and have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to didanosine. At approximately 12 times the estimated human exposure, didanosine was slightly toxic to female rats and their pups during mid and late lactation. These rats showed reduced food intake and body weight gains but the physical and functional development of the offspring was not impaired and there were no major changes in the F2 generation. A study in rats showed that didanosine and/or its metabolites are transferred to the fetus through the placenta. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

**Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry:** To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to didanosine and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-258-4263.

**Nursing Mothers:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV. A study in rats showed that following oral administration, didanosine and/or its metabolites were excreted into the milk of lactating rats. It is not known if didanosine is excreted in human milk. Because of both the potential for HIV transmission and the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, mothers should be instructed not to breast-feed if they are receiving VIDEX EC.

**Pediatric Use:** The safety and efficacy of VIDEX EC in pediatric patients have not been established. Please consult the complete prescribing information for VIDEX buffered formulations and Pediatric Powder for Oral Solution for dosage and administration of didanosine to pediatric patients.

**Geriatric Use:** In an Expanded Access Program using a buffered formulation of didanosine for the treatment of advanced HIV infection, patients aged 65 years and older had a higher frequency of pancreatitis (10%) than younger patients (5%) (see WARNINGS). Clinical studies of didanosine, including those for VIDEX EC, did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 years and over to determine whether they respond differently than younger subjects. Didanosine is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of toxic reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection. In addition, renal function should be monitored and dose adjustments should be made accordingly (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: Dose Adjustment).

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**  
A SERIOUS TOXICITY OF DIDANOSINE IS PANCREATITIS, WHICH MAY BE FATAL (see WARNINGS). OTHER IMPORTANT TOXICITIES INCLUDE LACTIC ACIDOSIS/SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS, RETINAL CHANGES AND OPTIC NEURITIS, AND PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY (see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS).

When didanosine is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of these toxicities may be higher than when didanosine is used alone. Thus, patients treated with VIDEX EC in combination with stavudine, with or without zidovudine, may be at increased risk for pancreatitis, which may be fatal, and hepatotoxicity (see WARNINGS). Patients treated with VIDEX EC in combination with stavudine may also be at increased risk for peripheral neuropathy (see PRECAUTIONS).

Studies of VIDEX EC and a buffered didanosine formulation yielded comparable safety profiles for both formulations. Selected clinical adverse events that occurred in clinical studies of didanosine dosed once daily in combination with other antiretroviral agents are provided in Table 3.

**Table 3**  
Selected Clinical Adverse Events from Combination Studies of Didanosine Dosed Once Daily

Adverse Events	A154-152 <sup>a</sup>		VIDEX		A154-149 <sup>b</sup>	
	VIDEX EC+ stavudine+ nevirapine n=255	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ nevirapine n=250	Buffered Tablet+ stavudine+ nevirapine n=482	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ nevirapine n=248		
Diarrhea	54	56	70	60		
Nausea	21	35	28	40		
Headache	20	16	21	30		
Peripheral Neuropathy	20	8	26	6		
Vomiting	13	18	12	14		
Rash	10	10	13	16		
Pancreatitis (see below)	<1	<1	<1	<1		

<sup>a</sup> Percentages based on treated patients.  
<sup>b</sup> Median duration of treatment 43 weeks in the VIDEX EC+stavudine-nevirapine group and 39 weeks in the zidovudine/lamivudine-nevirapine group.

<sup>c</sup> Median duration of treatment 48 weeks.  
<sup>d</sup> Zidovudine/lamivudine combination tablet.

<sup>e</sup> This event was not observed in this study arm.

In clinical trials using a buffered formulation of didanosine, pancreatitis resulting in death was observed in one patient who received didanosine plus stavudine plus nevirapine, one patient who received didanosine plus stavudine plus indinavir, and 2 of 68 patients who received didanosine plus stavudine plus indinavir plus hydroxyurea. In an early access program, pancreatitis resulting in death was observed in one patient who received VIDEX EC (didanosine) plus stavudine plus hydroxyurea plus ritonavir plus indinavir plus efavirenz (see WARNINGS). The frequency of pancreatitis is dose related. In phase 3 studies with buffered formulations of didanosine, incidence ranged from 1% to 10% with doses higher than are currently recommended and 1% to 7% with recommended doses.

Selected laboratory abnormalities that occurred in clinical studies of didanosine dosed once daily in combination with other antiretroviral agents are shown in Table 4.

**Table 4**  
Selected Laboratory Abnormalities from Combination Studies of Didanosine Dosed Once Daily

Parameter	Percent of Patients <sup>a</sup>			
	A154-152 <sup>a</sup>		A154-149 <sup>b</sup>	
SGOT (AST)	4	4	17	3
SGPT (ALT)	4	39	20	3
Lipase	3	18	7	17
Bilirubin	<1	7	<1	7

<sup>a</sup> Percentages based on treated patients.  
<sup>b</sup> Median duration of treatment 43 weeks in the VIDEX EC+stavudine-nevirapine group and 39 weeks in the zidovudine/lamivudine-nevirapine group.

<sup>c</sup> Median duration of treatment 48 weeks.  
<sup>d</sup> Zidovudine/lamivudine combination tablet.

<sup>e</sup> >5 x ULN for SGOT and SGPT, ≥2.1 x ULN for lipase, and ≥2.6 x ULN for bilirubin (ULN = upper limit of normal).

**Observed during Clinical Practice:**

The following events have been identified during postapproval use of didanosine buffered formulations. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to their seriousness, frequency of reporting, causal connection to didanosine, or a combination of these factors.

**Body as a Whole:** abdominal pain, alopecia, anaphylactoid reaction, asthenia, chills/fever, and pain.

**Digestive Disorders:** anorexia, dyspepsia, and flatulence.

**Exocrine Gland Disorders:** pancreatitis (including fatal cases) (see WARNINGS), sialadenitis, parotid gland enlargement, dry mouth, and dry eyes.

**Hematologic Disorders:** anemia, leukopenia, and thrombocytopenia.

**Liver:** lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS); hepatitis and liver failure.

**Metabolic Disorders:** diabetes mellitus, elevated serum alkaline phosphatase level, elevated serum uric acid level, elevated serum gamma-glutamyltransferase level, elevated serum uric acid level, hypoglycemia, and hyperglycemia.

**Musculoskeletal Disorders:** myalgia (with or without increases in creatine kinase), rhabdomyolysis including acute renal failure and hemodialysis, arthralgia, and myopathy.

**Ophthalmologic Disorders:** retinal depigmentation and optic neuritis (see WARNINGS).

**OVERDOSSAGE**

There is no known antidote for didanosine overdosage. In phase 1 studies, in which buffered formulations of didanosine were initially administered at doses ten times the currently recommended dose, toxicities included: pancreatitis, peripheral neuropathy, diarrhea, hyperuricemia, and hepatic dysfunction. Didanosine is not dialyzable by peritoneal dialysis, although there is some clearance by hemodialysis (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics in full prescribing information).

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**Adults:** VIDEX EC should be administered on an empty stomach.

VIDEX EC Delayed-Release Capsules should be swallowed intact.

The recommended dose is dependent on body weight and is administered as one capsule given on a once-daily schedule as outlined in Table 5.

**Table 5**  
Dosing of VIDEX EC Delayed-Release Capsules

Patient Weight	Dosage
≥60 kg	400 mg once daily
<60 kg	250 mg once daily

**Pediatric Patients:** VIDEX EC has not been studied in pediatric patients. Please consult the complete prescribing information for VIDEX buffered formulations and Pediatric Powder for Oral Solution for dosage and administration of didanosine to pediatric patients.

**Dose Adjustment:**

Clinical and laboratory signs suggestive of pancreatitis should prompt dose suspension and careful evaluation of the possibility of pancreatitis. VIDEX EC use should be discontinued in patients with confirmed pancreatitis (see WARNINGS).

Based on data with buffered didanosine formulations, patients with symptoms of peripheral neuropathy may tolerate a reduced dose of VIDEX EC after resolution of the symptoms of peripheral neuropathy upon drug interruption. If neuropathy recurs after resumption of VIDEX EC, permanent discontinuation of VIDEX EC should be considered.

**Renal Impairment:** Dosing recommendations for VIDEX EC and VIDEX buffered formulations are different for patients with renal impairment. Please consult the complete prescribing information on administration of VIDEX buffered formulations to patients with renal impairment.

In adult patients with impaired renal function, the dose of VIDEX EC should be adjusted to compensate for the slower rate of elimination. The recommended doses and dosing intervals of VIDEX EC in adult patients with renal insufficiency are presented in Table 6.

**Table 6**  
Recommended Dosage of VIDEX EC in Renal Impairment by Body Weight<sup>a</sup>

Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)	Dosage
≥60	400 mg once daily
30-59	200 mg once daily
10-29	125 mg once daily
<10	125 mg once daily

<sup>a</sup> Based on studies using a buffered formulation of didanosine.  
<sup>b</sup> Not suitable for use in patients <60 kg with CL<sub>CR</sub> <10 mL/min.

An alternate formulation of didanosine should be used.

**Patients Requiring Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis (CAPD) or Hemodialysis:**

For patients requiring CAPD or hemodialysis, follow dosing recommendations for patients with creatinine clearance less than 10 mL/min, shown in Table 6. It is not necessary to administer a supplemental dose of didanosine following hemodialysis.

**Hepatic Impairment:** (see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS.)

**HOW SUPPLIED**

VIDEX® EC (didanosine) Delayed-Release Capsules are white, opaque capsules that are packaged in bottles with child-resistant closures as described in Table 7.

**Table 7**  
VIDEX EC Delayed-Release Capsules

125 mg capsule imprinted with BMS 125 mg 6671 in Tan	30 capsules/bottle
NDC No. 0087-6671-17	60 capsules/bottle



## NATIONAL NEWS

# Army retreats on DADT, May to stay



Arizona Rep. Steve May

by Bob Roeher

The Army has decided to stop trying to expel Lieutenant Steve May from the reserves for violation of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." The announcement came on Monday, January 15, after May's attorney Christopher Wolf had met with White House chief of staff John Podesta and Pentagon officials to discuss the case.

"This is precedent setting," said May when reached at his home only hours after the announcement. "Never before has the military dropped a case and allowed a service member to complete his normal service."

Army spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Bill Whelehan tried to downplay the importance of the

decision. He said that May's term of service expires on May 11, it would take several months to process him out, and May agreed not to re-enlist.

May was not buying the spin. He said that technically, officers do not re-enlist, they are always available for service even after they retire. That was how he was called back to the reserves, he did not re-enlist. Furthermore, the Pentagon has not hesitated to kick out gay soldiers who were only months away from vesting 20-year retirement benefits.

C. Dixon Osburn, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, was "thrilled for Steve May. I hope that this is tacit recognition by the Army that they should have never pursued him in the first place."

But he said, "The jury is still out" as to what the decision means for other service members.

Perhaps the Army recognized that it had a weak case in prosecuting May based on statements that he made in the course of his work as an Arizona state legislator and prior to being called back into the reserves.

"It is unfortunate that we have to bring so many resources to bear to get the Army just to do what they should have done in the first place," said Osburn. He suggested that the White House acted when the matter "was approaching the 11th hour" because it was deferring to the chain of command, "wanting to get things resolved at the lowest level."

"I think that the president wanted to make a statement," said

May. "He came in dealing with gays in the military and he is leaving with gays in the military."

"I hope that other service members will be able to use it in some respect," he said. "I hope that my story will help to educate the American public so that they will demand a change in the law from Congress."

May could lead that fight as a member of Congress just two years from now. Arizona gains two additional seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, according to the 2000 census, and May has a good shot at being elected to one of them. He was named chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee of the state Assembly earlier this month. That should enhance his influence, public visibility, and ability to raise money. ▽

## GenderPAC

◀ page 1

In the early days it was just me and a handful of volunteers, so we took a lot of transgender cases. Nobody else was doing that work. Now we have a budget and staff and resources and we are able to begin fulfilling our mission and working on other cases." Wilchins pointed to two such cases: one that involves a woman who was fired from her job for refusing to wear makeup, and another that addresses the fact that a female athlete who looked "too masculine" was assaulted and injured by security guards after leaving a women's bathroom. Neither victim identifies as "transgender" and yet both were persecuted for not fitting into strict gender expectations.

"I think what we're hearing is the sound of paradigms falling," said Wilchins of the comments directed toward GenderPAC. "I won't build another identity-based movement because I've been locked out of every one I tried to join. I'm not welcome at cross-dressing, feminist, or gay groups, and I'm not going to lock anybody else outside the door. We embrace everyone or we embrace no one."

"It is ironic when people begin portraying inclusion and diversity as bad things," she added. "We think bringing more people to the struggle is the only way to build a vibrant movement for the 21st century. And if you really think we're pulling away from transgender work, just look at our Web site. You'll see all the transgender stuff up there."

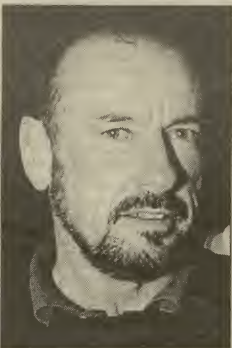
But Wilchins's rebuttal misses the point, say the activists behind the open letter, a three-page statement that specifically declares, "We share with Riki Anne Wilchins ... a critique of the narrow 'identity politics' that would divorce the concerns of transgender-identified people from a broader politics which recognizes oppressions experienced by all people who express their gender in non-normative ways."

In fact, they say, if transgenders are supposed to be embraced along with others, why are they hardly ever mentioned by name in contemporary GenderPAC statements, particularly on the Web site that Wilchins references?

Although Wilchins says she has reluctantly allowed people to keep their identity labels in GenderPAC matters, in fact it is only the transgenders who have not consistently been labeled on the GenderPAC Web site. Posted news items about Brandon Teena (who may or may

not have identified as "trans") and others who have referred to themselves as "transgender," for instance, almost never include the T-word, and in fact these stories are hard to recognize as GenderPAC presents them (in regard to Teena's situation, for instance, the story is presented as "a man in Nebraska is beaten and raped by two assailants who want to 'prove' he's really a woman").

To Bay Area transsexual activist and writer James Green, this effort not to use "transgender" goes overboard.



James Green

"I hate identity politics," Green told the B.A.R. "And yet to a certain extent these issues are identity issues, and to say we're going to leave identity behind and not address things that have to do with identity is very shortsighted in my mind."

Green pointed to GenderPAC's filing of an amicus brief in the Brandon Teena wrongful death suit as an example of how GenderPAC's de-emphasis on identity could hurt their work.

"Any reference to 'trans' was taken out of that brief, and they were simply talking about Brandon's gender," said Green. "There's also a point at which they went off on some tangent about how gender expression affects everyone. If I were the judge in this case I would say, 'What the hell are they talking about?' and toss it out."

"Not only does their brief not speak to the facts of the case but it takes you into other areas irrelevant to the suit. Many of these paragraphs—if you don't say 'gender identity'—are meaningless. There are places it would be important to say that Brandon sought medical advice for gender dysphoria ... not for his 'gender,'" laughed Green.

"If you take away all of the qualifying language then you lose the specificity, and in law you must

have specificity. So while of course I support the broad positions that everyone should be free from gender stereotyping, unless we talk about issues that face individuals, we'll never get to that place."

### Once upon a time

In a word far, far away, "transgender" was supposed to be the language that would have solved this conflict. While "transsexual" was exclusive to those who had transitioned to the "opposite" sex; transgender could include everyone in between: the cross-dressers, the butch lesbians, the straight people who did not conform to rigid codes. In fact it was this word alone that was supposed to cover all these people, as witnessed by the national push to tack it on to non-discrimination laws that covered sexual orientation. Even if they did not identify as "trans," these people would be covered by a definition that allowed them to fall anywhere along the gender spectrum.

Yet little by little, transgender began to be interpreted—both by common folk and queers, legislators and judges—as transsexual, or, in simpler terms, as a person who had assumed a life as the other sex. There was no longer an "in between" allowed, or maybe there never was in the first place. Just recently, for instance, the mayor of Portland, Oregon proposed that the city expand its non-discrimination law to cover any person who dresses and/or identifies as a sex different from how they may be perceived. However, she was careful to emphasize that the law would cover only people who are "consistent" with their behavior and not those come to work "dressed as a man one day and a woman the next."

It was recognition of this problem, said Wilchins, that prompted GenderPAC to push for laws to cover more than those people who had fully transitioned.

But just what language should go into broader laws remains to be decided. Wilchins, for one, says that GenderPAC is "agnostic" when it comes to language, but would be biased toward words like "gender," that are "inclusive."

But Green cautions that not pushing for "transgender" or "gender identity" will inevitably mean that the trans population will be left of protections, particularly since "gender" is already a part of most non-discrimination ordinances.

"I don't believe that you can go back to the 1970s and say this ordinance means 'gender expression,' when as it stands that word is universally understood to mean a person's sex," said Green, who believes a better way for GenderPAC to lobby would be to reclaim the original meaning of "transgender" and work to make sure it is translated broadly.

"That was the whole reason we embraced the term to begin with," said Green. "Unfortunately, GenderPAC does not see it that way."

What GenderPAC does see, according to Wilchins, is a new understanding of the group as a result of the open letter.

"No matter how many times I tried to tell people about our mission, nobody believed me. They couldn't see or hear past my body," said Wilchins. "Now that a group of transgender people are saying the same thing, it helps us explain our case."

But the trans activists speaking out emphasize that it is not GenderPAC's mission they have a problem with, but rather the manner in which it is being pursued. As GenderPAC seeks the politics of non-identity, they say, the group may ironically achieve a result of exclusion.

"Quite honestly, when Riki talks about post-identity politics, she doesn't understand the nature of identity politics to begin with," said Pauline Park, a co-founder of

New York Association for Gender Rights Advocacy. "Identities form in relation to the oppression of marginalized groups. And dropping identity-based labels does not end the oppression of those groups."

Park also took issue with GenderPAC's implication that transgender activism is limited to one population.

"Riki is trying to create the impression that her critics are intent on creating a trans-exclusive organization, and that's not the case," said Park. "NYAGRA, for instance, is identified as a trans organization, but our mission is to advocate on behalf of all gender variant people. And unlike GenderPAC, we can advocate for freedom of gender identity and expression without losing trans people—the most marginalized of the groups—along the way."

To GenderPAC, this notion is absurd, particularly since half of its board members are trans-identified.

"I firmly believe in our mission," said Katherine Palmer, a trans-identified activist and co-chair of GenderPAC. "I think this whole thing is an overreaction from within the trans community itself."

Yet when asked to clarify her position on language and identity, Palmer—while touted by Wilchins as someone who "gets it"—seemed to come from an entirely different place, assuming quite generally, among other things, that "a butch lesbian is not cross-dressing, she's making a sexual statement," and "cross-dressers don't consider themselves to be the opposite sex they just know they're dressing differently."

### Ahead of its time?

Perhaps, as Wilchins herself has surmised, GenderPAC's lack of identity politics might be ahead of its time, even for those who have remained on board. At times, said

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# The Ryan White-wash

## AIDS sacred cow has become cash cow

by Wayne Turner

After a hard fought 20 years, AIDS has finally become a political sacred cow. Immune from budget cuts, even the Republican controlled Congress has steadily increased federal AIDS funding, at times above the Clinton administration's request. The Ryan White CARE Act, a \$1.7 billion program, was unanimously re-authorized by the 106th Congress last year.

Named 10 years ago in memory of a teenager who died from AIDS, the Ryan White CARE Act was originally conceived to provide emergency relief to low-income people with HIV and AIDS, for doctor's visits, medications, food banks, emergency assistance, and other survival services.

Yet lawmakers and the administration have done little to ensure that those hard fought-for dollars actually help patients.

Lax oversight for federal AIDS programs has resulted in numerous funding abuses, from San Francisco to San Juan, ranging from glaring misuse to outright fraud. While the money keeps rolling in, many HIV/AIDS patients continue to suffer, with low-quality care, or no services at all.

Hundreds of AIDS patients died in Puerto Rico because \$2.2 million in Ryan White funds were embezzled by administrators of the San Juan AIDS Institute. A local investigation revealed that money intended for patient care had been diverted to political campaigns, for personal maids, Jaguars, and Jet Skis.

The U.S. Attorney's office won five convictions, and seven guilty pleas. Yet they are little consolation for the surviving family members who watched their loved ones die.

The San Juan case is, tragically, not isolated. The FBI is currently probing an AIDS clinic in Dallas, Texas, after local authorities uncovered tens of thousands of Ryan White dollars had been spent on shopping sprees to Neiman-Marcus, and psychic phone-in calls. A bookkeeper in Florida pleaded guilty to stealing \$500,000 in AIDS money, and spent the funds

on trips to Disney World. Los Angeles auditors discovered three years of federal AIDS housing funds in a hidden bank account. In Indiana, a statewide agency diverted funds intended for emergency patient assistance, to help cover its own operating costs.

The mounting cases of outright embezzlement are only part of the problem. A decade of unaccountable spending has resulted in a vast AIDS bureaucracy that has become as entrenched, and often indifferent, as any government-subsidized industry.

### Foxes guarding the hen house

The administrators of some AIDS charities earn more than mayors, governors, and members of Congress. The head of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Pat Christen, tops the list, earning more than \$200,000 a year, according to the group's 1990 tax forms for 1999.

The inflated salaries for some AIDS executives is starkly contrasted by the subsistence living of many HIV/AIDS patients. Their daily struggle for survival is only confounded by the intricate maze of repetitious forms, red tape, paperwork, and waiting lists created by the AIDS service industry.

The CARE Act has become more like a jobs program for bureaucrats. Groups receiving funds invest more in staff and overhead than in patient care, ready for the next grant cycle where infrastructure counts more than effectiveness.

The *Bay Area Reporter* wrote two years ago about a man with AIDS, suffering from chronic diarrhea. Tony Leone, who later died of AIDS-related complications, was denied a 95-cent adult diaper as he left a health facility in San Francisco. He traveled home from his appointment on a bus, soaked in his own excrement.

When the Ryan White Act was first drafted back in 1990, Congress empowered locally appointed community members to establish critical service priorities and oversee the allocation of federal dollars: Title I planning councils.

The promise of full community participation and oversight in the

allocation of federal funds never materialized. Planning councils have for 10 years been packed with salaried employees, board members, and consultants of groups receiving Ryan White funds. With conflict of interest rules rarely enforced, what could be an effective body of local watchdogs, has become more like a group of foxes guarding the hen house.

### Health care for dead people

Since 1990, Ryan White CARE Act funds have been distributed according to a complicated formula that counts the cumulative number of AIDS cases within a jurisdiction, and not the current number of living clients. As a result, areas which experienced a devastating death toll early on in the epidemic, like San Francisco, still receive twice the funds, per patient (\$5,980), than other cities with a comparable caseload, such as Chicago (\$3,123) and the District of Columbia (\$2,869).

Taxpayers have been funding health care services for dead people, according to congressional testimony by an official from the General Accounting Office. Funding inequities particularly impact African American and other minority communities now facing the full brunt of the AIDS epidemic. HIV/AIDS patients in 17 states are on waiting lists or have restricted access to potentially life-saving medications under the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, while the CARE Act pays for flirting classes, dog walking, and HIV bowling nights in San Francisco.

### Lobbyists: Patients vs. providers

The bulk of Washington AIDS political muscle is concentrated, not with patient groups, but lobbying firms for AIDS service providers. Nonprofit AIDS agencies have invested millions of dollars in operations like the AIDS Action Council, and the CAEAR Coalition (Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Response).

The fight to include accountability reforms in the CARE Act faced an uphill battle. Activists found an unusual ally - conservative Republican Dr. Tom Coburn (R-Oklahoma), co-author of the CARE Act in the House of Representatives. He was joined by Democrat Henry Waxman (D-California) to incorporate accountability measures, proposed by patient activists, in the final version of the CARE Act.

These modest provisions, activists hope, will help strengthen patient participation and oversight at both the local and federal levels:

- At least a third of Title I planning council members would be required to be consumers of CARE services who are "non-aligned" (meaning not a salaried employee, board member, or consultant for an organization receiving CARE Act funds).

- Federal sunshine laws would be applied to Title I planning councils. This would guarantee all meetings would be open to the public and the records, reports, and minutes would be available to the public.

- New planning council members would be provided with appropriate training guidance to ensure the ability of new members to fully participate in council activities.

- A random sampling of contractors, grantees, and sub-grantees from all Ryan White

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## Survive AIDS wants to hear from HIVers

by Jeff Getty, Survive AIDS Writers Pool

Recent Survive AIDS meetings have indicated that most HIVers are having to deal with three life-threatening problems these days:

1. High cost of living in the Bay Area, taking money needed for medical care.
2. Continuing resistance of HIV and related opportunistic infections.
3. HIV drugs' unwanted side effects.

We would like to hear from our readers who are HIV-positive. Please take a moment to send an e-mail response of any length to the following addresses as per your concern:

Are you having the most problems dealing with high cost of living? Reply to: costliving@hotmail.com.

Are you having the most problems with HIV and opportunistic infections? Reply to: infections61@hotmail.com.

Are you having the most problems with HIV drug treatment side effects? Reply to: drugtreatment63@hotmail.com.

Do you have other areas of most concern? Reply to: HIVother@hotmail.com.

No e-mail? Call (415) 252-9200 and leave a brief message.

We will report the survey results here in the *B.A.R.* in a couple of weeks. Your voice counts. ▼



## OBITUARIES

## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

### Timothy P. Gongloff

1955-2001



cisco after finishing film school at Penn State.

He loved the city, and enjoyed the natural beauty within and around it. Food was a passion for Tim, and he worked for many years at Sparky's diner on Church Street. Most recently he worked at Tavolino in North Beach and was looking forward to a new career at

Timothy Gongloff, a long-term resident of San Francisco, died in his home early on January 4. He was 45 years old.

"Timmer" grew up in Nanty Glo, Pennsylvania, and moved to San Francisco

Postrio.

Tim's heart and home were always open for his many friends who were often welcomed with a home-cooked meal and a round of Rumikub.

Tim will be missed by many including parents Milton and Anne, his siblings Judi, Michael, Daniel, Leah Ann, Francis, Brian and the neighbors, friends, and merchants of Church Street and throughout San Francisco.

Donations may be made in Tim's name to Project Open Hand, San Francisco. Flowers and sympathy cards should be sent to the Gongloff family at 1298 Davis St., Nanty Glo, PA 15943.

### Dennis Charles Roche

1944 — 2000



Dennis Charles Roche died in the late morning hours of November 15, 2000 at CPMC with Betsy by his side. This loss is felt by all those whose lives he touched. Born and raised in New Jersey, Dennis attended Capri School of Beauty after graduating high school. In the late 1960s he headed North and took up residence on Boston's Beacon Hill and worked cutting hair at Filene's Basement. In 1970 he moved to the Village in New York City and traded his scissors for a steering wheel as a NYC cab driver.

By 1972 he moved West, first to LA and then settled in San Francisco, his home for the past 27 years. In 1978 he opened 21st Century Hair on Noriega St. Tall and handsome with a magnetic smile, Dennis won friends everywhere he went. Because he opened his door to friends from around the world, he found welcome mats from Greece to Australia. Genetically predisposed to flea-markets, his sharp eye brought him

countless treasures for pennies.

His noble courage and proactive approach to his illness impressed his family, friends, and doctors alike. His ashes will be scattered in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. For info call Keith at (510) 654-7060.

### David Ralph Speer



David succumbed to the complications of AIDS after working through a long battle. He was born in Jackson, Michigan. His family moved to Van Wert, Ohio where David graduated high school.

He also graduated from the University of Cincinnati, Ohio with a Bachelor's in Psychology.

In 1984 while living in New Orleans, Louisiana, David got the opportunity to go to the American Intercontinental University in London, England where he studied Design from 1985 to 1990. During this time David raveled extensively in Europe and included a trip to Indonesia and Australia in 1988.

When David returned to the States in 1990, he landed in San Francisco and became a tailor at Image Leather. He also became a popular Sunday bartender at the Eagle Tavern. David and lover John Janeczko were both active in the leather community and shared interests in theater and gourmet cooking and a return to Australia in 1993. John died of AIDS in 1994. David's ashes will rest along side John's at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Los Altos.

David is survived by housemate Johnny Lupton and by his father Ralph, sisters Cynthia and Linda, and brothers Douglas and Richard.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Eagle Tavern, 4-6 p.m., on Saturday, January 27.

## Minister

◀ page 1

peared 17 years ago.

The church assisted Cox in contacting his family. After several phone calls, he reunited with his mother and brother on New Year's Day in the tiny East Texas community of Frankston where his mother lives. He plans to meet with his wife and daughter later this month.

Reached this week at her home in Tennessee, Cox's wife, Beth Cox, politely told the *Bay Area Reporter* that she is no longer taking press questions and referred all calls to Ed Bailey, a fellow member of her church who is also an attorney. Bailey did not return the B.A.R.'s call.

In a press conference last week, Mrs. Cox told reporters that she still believes her missing husband's story of losing his memory after being beaten unconscious. She said she and her daughter, now 17, have spoken to him several times by phone.

"I want to sit down and talk to him," she said. "I'm trying to understand all this."

Barre Cox plans a press conference of his own this Saturday, January 20, at the Dallas church. It will be his first public comment. A church representative, Craig McDaniel, told the B.A.R. that Cox was en route from California to Dallas this week and is expected to arrive there on Friday. The church still plans to hire Cox as its new pastor.

At the time when he was first being considered for the position, Cox openly acknowledged to the church he suffered from amnesia and couldn't remember his life before 1984. He said his earliest memory is of being treated in a Memphis-area hospital for injuries suffered in an apparent assault.

"Obviously Pastor Simmons's background is extraordinary, and we knew of his history because he presented it to us," said the church in a statement published on its Web site. "In another remarkable

occurrence, one of our own church members recognized James as a fellow member of the Church of Christ in Canyon, Texas when they were younger. It was through that personal connection that James was able to reestablish his roots and meet some of his family members. He, and we, are overjoyed by this.

"We are aware that some people have raised new questions about James's background, and quite frankly we don't have all the answers about this man's interesting life. I'm sure when he arrives in Dallas and over time, his story will become clearer. Having only discovered his true identity in the past month, more of his history will unfold in due time."

Widespread media reports have quoted Memphis police as saying they have no record of Cox's alleged assault and treatment at a hospital there. McDaniel told the B.A.R. that those reports are misleading because Cox never said he was treated in a Memphis hospital. McDaniel said the hospital was near Memphis but not in the city and that's why Memphis police have no record of the attack. McDaniel said he didn't know the name of the hospital. He expects Cox will answer that question at his press conference this weekend.

Cox made up the name James Simmons and later, with the assistance of his former landlady, got a Social Security number and birth date to go along with the name, said McDaniel. The landlady phoned a contact she had at Texas Tech University and was able to get the Social Security number and birth date of a man named James Simmons from college records. McDaniel added that after three years, Cox was able to get a legitimate Social Security number but he kept the birth date.

Charges were never filed against Cox for using the stolen Social Security number. McDaniel said Cox never profited from the use of the number. Authorities in Texas said the real James Simmons has no interest in pressing charges and since Cox hasn't used his

number in several years, the statue of limitations would likely prohibit any prosecution.

Cox resigned from his job as the director of campus life at the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley last month after he got the pastor's job in Dallas.

"The guy that we've known for the last nine years was a quality individual," said Cameron Crabtree, the seminary's public relations director. "He was a good student, a good employee, a committed person and we're learning the details of the story along with everyone else."

Crabtree told the B.A.R. that when Cox resigned, he gave the seminary little details about his new job as pastor of a gay church.

"When he announced his resignation he just said he's taking a job as a senior pastor at a church back East and he didn't really share any details about the church," he said.

Crabtree said that if Cox is gay, he wasn't open about it at the seminary.

"There were no indications that would lead anyone to conclude that in his service here or in any of the interactions that we've had with him," he said.

A link to an audio recording of Cox's sermon before the Dallas church is posted on the church's Web site at [www.white-rockchurch.org](http://www.white-rockchurch.org). Near the beginning of his talk he leaves little doubt of his sexual orientation.

"I bring you greetings from California, from your brothers and sisters there," said Cox.

"I will tell you that I came in September to visit your church, and I've been praying that God will give me a small country church in the mountains with lots of trees," said Cox, eliciting laughter from the congregation. "Small, intimate church. And I thought, well, I'm going to Dallas, and I thought, maybe they'll send two hunky guys at the airport. And they did. They sent the hunkiest guys they could. They sent James and Bob to get me here."

next page ►



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# The deep

by Jim Provenzano

The only way to improve a scuba diving vacation is to do it with other friendly lesbian and gay divers. It's better than getting kicked off the island on one of those Caribbean cruises.

But a vacation that also raises thousands for queer kids? Most excellent.

The Youth Program at the Billy DeFrank Center in San Jose was recently named the recipient of the Diving for Life community resource grant from the Northern California Rainbow Divers. NCRD is a nonprofit scuba club for LGBT divers and their friends. Based in San Francisco, it includes over 200 members throughout the greater Bay Area.

"This was my first time going on a Diving for Life trip," said San Jose's Ralph Wolf, a certified dive master who also led a trip to Hawaii, and traveled to Roatan

(off of Honduras) and Cozumel, among other exotic locales. Wolf is also a former board member of NCRD.

Wolf first dove on a vacation in Hawaii. A few years later he got certified on his own, but didn't discover Northern California Rainbow Divers until seeing their booth at a Pride event.

About 25 divers from the Bay Area attended this recent trek. What's admirable is its low cost. They don't raise funds per fathom.

"It's all paid for by the people who go," said Wolf. "They give the money. They put together an efficiently-packaged vacation, and go to the resort in the off-season." The profit is distributed back to the clubs and their causes.

And unlike other "adventure rides," there are no executives pulling off a big salary, so the

funds go directly to the cause.

## Octopus's garden

Each year NCRD awards its share of the proceeds from Diving for Life to a worthy service organization in our community. This year's \$10,000 grant to the youth program is earmarked for youth program general expenses, with an emphasis on AIDS education, prevention, and awareness programs targeted for or organized by sexual minority youth.

What made the process particularly significant was that a team of young people from the DeFrank Center's Qkids youth group presented the proposal to the NCRD grant review meeting by themselves.

"We were very impressed with the energy and enthusiasm of their delegation," said Wolf. "By providing the resources to plan their own AIDS education and prevention programs, we're hoping the Qkids will come up with effective ways to raise the level of awareness among their at-risk peers, while developing their own leadership skills at the same time."

NCRD has been around for more than 10 years. The club offers basic open water and advanced scuba classes and organizes regular diving trips throughout the year. "Our trips range from weekend shore dives down in Monterey Bay all the way up to complete tropical vacations," said Wolf.

All levels of expertise are welcome. "You don't have to be a master swimmer," said Wolf. "Diving is much more relaxing."

With several instructors in the group, NCRD offers a variety of chances to get certified, either on a supervised trip, or here at home on evening and weekend classes with lectures and a pool.

"Then we do a few shallow dives in Monterey," said Wolf. "We take people through the most common scenarios. When you start free-diving you start to discover the adventure."

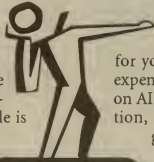
The club is split between warm waters divers and those who like the more brisk Pacific diving in California, home of the most active cold water diving. "The marine life is actually a lot richer here," Wolf said.

Including sharks? "All the sharks I've seen are cute shy little things," Wolf said. "You're the big creature down there."

The biggest risk is other divers, taking chances, pulling stunts, or not being careful. "It's like driving a car."

## Sunken treasure

Diving for Life, a separate nonprofit organization that puts on a weeklong scuba jamboree at a dif-



Sports Complex



Scuba do: two divers relax after exploring under the sea

Ralph Wolf / Rainbow Divers

ferent resort each year, invites dozens of queer dive clubs from all over the world to participate.

It's like going on a package vacation, only they give 100 percent of the proceeds back to the clubs so that each can distribute the money in their respective communities. This year's trip to Curaçao was a big success, with over 150 divers attending.

"It was very efficient and well run, and we had a large group from our club going," added Wolf. "This is the largest community grant we've ever been able to make from this program, and we're very pleased to be able to use the money to support such a worthwhile group."

"We were ecstatic when we heard the news," said Ron Schoof, deputy director of the DeFrank Center. "I am so impressed and proud of the ability of our youth to bring in a grant of that amount. They truly deserve it."

Other funds are raised through in-kind donations, and celebrity donations. In an ironically morbid tone, the LA County Coroner's office donated beach towels with corpse outlines. Such fun items go quickly. "For the live auction, people get into a feeding frenzy," said Wolf.

The youth programs for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth has always been an integral part of the DeFrank Center and aims to serve the youth in the Santa Clara County area. It currently provides various services ranging from free individual counseling to weekly social and support groups. It is also supported by the United Way Silicon Valley and the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency.

For more information about NCRD, Diving for Life, or the DeFrank Center's youth programs, visit <http://www.RainbowDivers.org>, <http://www.DivingForLife.org>, and <http://www.defrank.org>.

## Fundy

Wanna get some dough rolling for Team SF? Attend the fundraising committee meeting this Monday, January 22, from 7-8:30 p.m. Call Glenn Galang at (415) 586-5818, e-mail [glenn@galang.ws](mailto:glenn@galang.ws) for directions, info, or visit <http://www.teamsf.org>.



Cast out: Rainbow divers fly the familiar flag while preparing to dive.

Ralph Wolf / Rainbow Divers

## Gumby

In the category of Gay Games 2002 events we hope don't suffer from budget cuts: Mass Yoga-Inn, Sunday November 3, 2002. Join hundreds of fellow yoga enthusiasts for the largest yoga class in history. Participants must bring their own yoga mat. Participants may either register as a full participant and gain all benefits as a full participant or pay a U.S. \$20 entry fee that includes a two-day pass to the Queer Show, just one of many extra activities proposed for the festival of athleticism down under.

To warm up until Sydney 2002, visit Castro Yoga 4450 18th Street, (415) 552-9644, or any of the other Bay Area yoga schools. ▼

To stretch your mind, and find links to these and other GLBT sports groups, visit <http://sportscomplex.org>.

## Minister

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The congregation laughed and applauded with approval.

The B.A.R. obtained a copy of Cox's résumé that he submitted to the church. It itemizes his work in the Bay Area that includes a stint as a Project Open Hand meal delivery volunteer from 1992 to 1994. During that same period, his résumé lists that he also worked as a hospital chaplain at Marin General Hospital.

Bruce Murphy, the hospital's coordinator of chaplain services, told the B.A.R. that he had a good recollection Cox. Murphy said the man he knew as James Simmons did chaplain work at the hospital as part of an internship with the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

"He was great, that's why he's easy to remember. The staff loved him. The patients loved him. He was very sensitive and compassionate. He was one of the better interns I've ever had," he said.

Cheryl Bacon was Cox's former colleague and friend when they worked together at Abilene Christian University. She told the B.A.R. that given the stresses Cox was under at the time of his disappearance, she doesn't know what to make of his story. She said Cox was in the middle of preparing a dissertation. He also had recently changed jobs, moved, and had a new baby daughter. Many have speculated that Cox may have intentionally disappeared because he just couldn't cope with it all. Experts on amnesia have also expressed doubts about Cox's story.

"And the fact that no blood was found at the scene where the attack happened, that's something that a lot of people find puzzling," said Bacon. ▼

**William Owen, Jr., M.D.**  
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# SLDN

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people were plucked out of the unit, they just disappeared. There were rumors, but they were just gone." Benecke said that for every gay discharge case that went to an administrative hearing or to court, there were hundreds that one never heard about.

Witch-hunts were commonplace, in part because "it was easier for CID to rack up numbers" by prosecuting gays than by handling more serious felonies. But now, "service members themselves are more empowered," they are more aware of their rights and how to find assistance when threatened.

The incentives built into the system have changed. "Now the Pentagon knows that if they launch a witch-hunt, the press is going to be all over them." The public has become more aware of the abuses of "military justice" and is no longer willing to tolerate them.

When they started, they thought it would take 20 years to overturn DADT, Benecke said. "This is the military and it is rather impervious to change." So she is delighted and proud that they have accomplished so much in seven years.

A lot of people fear that "with a Bush administration, everything is going to go to hell in a hand-basket. I disagree." Benecke believes that the new administration does not want to deal with DADT, and it knows the best way to do that is to minimize the issues surrounding its implementation.

George W. Bush "could do a lot of good. It would make an impact on people's daily lives if he would reinforce that he expects the military to stop asking, pursuits, and harassment." She expects that the chain of command will understand that "they had darn well better implement it properly and follow the law."

Benecke is ready for a change in her life that involves fewer 12- to 16-hour days. She feels that SLDN is in good hands with co-director Osburn staying on as the sole director of the organization. And he is eager to handle the challenges.

Benecke is going to spend a little time with family and her partner to "mull over the options." One of the questions she has to answer for herself is if she "would be happy practicing law in a more traditional context." In the meantime she is going to "head down south, grab my golf bag and undertake the difficult task of working on my golf swing." ▼

# GenderPAC

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Wilchins, it's as if the questions she faces, "are being asked in German, and I'm answering in Spanish."

But although their language may be different, both sides of the debate seem to be arguing the same thing: that gender rights belong to everyone, not just people who live their lives on a binary male/female system. And both sides also agree that GenderPAC may not be the avenue that fulfills all the needs of the trans-identified community.

"We will always do transgender advocacy, because you can't have a gender rights movement without it," said Wilchins, and even people like Green agree that GenderPAC's transgender work will continue.

"But there are issues that remain specifically transsexual which other organizations might do a better job at addressing," added Wilchins.

It is for this reason, said Green, that he signed the letter.

"I wanted to open the dialogue

about what we need to create at the national level. There are still people giving money to GenderPAC and thinking they're helping the trans community when they're not going to be able to rely on GenderPAC to meet their needs."

If a national transgender group is started, Wilchins has vowed to support it any way she can. But GenderPAC, she maintains, has always come from a different place. "The centrifugal forces of 20th century identity politics have in many ways driven us farther apart from one another. We need to try a post identity form of organizing that stresses our commonalities instead of our differences." ▼

Those interested in helping to form a transgender movement at the national level that operates outside of GenderPAC are encouraged to visit a contact link at NYAGRA's Web site at [www.nyagra.org](http://www.nyagra.org) and/or join a discussion group by e-mailing [nyagra@nyagra.org](mailto:nyagra@nyagra.org). For more information on GenderPAC, visit [www.gpac.org](http://www.gpac.org).

# Ryan White-wash

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CARE Act programs would be audited annually by the federal government.

The growing, bloated network of AIDS executives, funding abuses, lobbyists, and conferences, will undoubtedly continue, even with these reforms. However, cracks are beginning to show in the AIDS industry. People living with HIV and AIDS are asking questions, and demanding results, because not enough of the dollars earmarked for their treatment and care are trickling down.

The Ryan White CARE Act, in its implementation, needs to place a greater priority on patients' needs, instead of feeding the money-hungry bureaucracy. Turning that hope into reality poses significant challenges.

The 107th Congress can prove its commitment to AIDS by measuring its deliverables, and not just its annual appropriation.

Likewise, the mainstream media, now accustomed to featuring feel-good stories on events like

the AIDS Rides, should follow their counterparts in the gay press by scrutinizing where those millions of dollars raised actually go.

The ultimate challenge faces people living with HIV and AIDS, particularly those without health insurance, living in poverty. For them, survival means a daily struggle for medicine, food, and a place to call home. They can be the most effective watchdogs, and yet their voices are so often silenced.

Herein lies the mindset of the AIDS service industry—they think the money belongs to them. They pay for the lobbyists, write the grants, set their own salaries and bill it all the U.S. taxpayer.

Too many victims have already slipped through the safety net of a paternalistic and self-serving AIDS care delivery system. If those infected hope to be healthy, and possibly survive, it will mean challenging an industry now driven by greed, arrogance, and indifference to patient suffering.

It's time to end AIDS Inc. ▼

Wayne Turner is a co-founder of ACT UP in Washington, D.C.

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**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245652**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Future of Email, 1261 Grove Street #6, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed John Begley Gesaci. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/28/00. JAN. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2001

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245554**  
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**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245696**  
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**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245700**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: B.M. Painting, Carpet Co. 6 Santa Barbara Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Bill Ma. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/02/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/02/01. JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245682**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Tatu, 1011 23rd Street #18, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Maria Cleaveland. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 12/29/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/29/00. JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245761**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Stuart McKee Design, 1300 Page Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Stuart David McKee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/03/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/03/01. JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 317863**  
In the Matter of the Application of Geoffrey Swearingen for Change of Name, The application of Geoffrey Swearingen for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Geoffrey Swearingen has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Geoffrey Gray. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 6th day of March, 2001, at 9 o'clock A.M., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245947**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Sakanabune Japanese Restaurant, 5701 Geary Blvd. San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Maak Corporation. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/15/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/11/01. JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 246002**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Vitalane Creative Design, 39 Boardman Place #104, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Juancho Vitancop, vice president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/01/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/12/01. JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245877**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Sacred Gardens, 544 Los Palms Drive, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Henry Lima. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/08/01. JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001

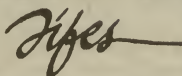
**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245765**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Above & Beyond Marketing & Promotions, Max Goodman, 873 #B Sutter Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ross Kenneth Grossman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/03/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/03/01. JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 317840**  
In the Matter of the Application of Lori Bursell for Change of Name, The application of Lori Bursell for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Lori Bursell has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Cade Bursell. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 5th day of March, 2001, at 9 o'clock A.M., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001



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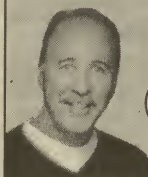
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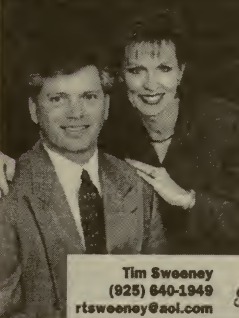
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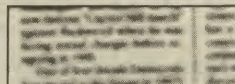
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LGBT Community Center seeks staff assistant \$2600/mo+benefits, see [www.sfcenter.org](http://www.sfcenter.org) for full job description. Send resume/cover letter to: 1748 Market St #204 SF 94102 or fax 415-437-2259 or email [sfgaycent@aol.com](mailto:sfgaycent@aol.com). No phone calls please.

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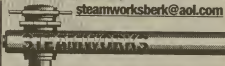
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## LEGAL NOTICES

## STATEMENT FILE NO.245882

The following person(s) are doing business as: Look Of Love Hair & Nail Salon, 3901-18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Giap- Pham- H. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/08/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca on 01/08/01.

JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO.245956

The following person(s) are doing business as: Multi Trading Solutions. (MIS) 722 17th Avenue, San Francisco 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Eun Pil Cho. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/11/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca on 01/11/01.

JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO.245926

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lakeside Paradise Travel. 156 Eucalyptus Drive, San Francisco, Ca. 94132. This business is conducted by an individual signed Vita Burmenko. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/10/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca on 01/10/01.

JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 0221355

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Vitalane Creative Design/located at: 39 Boardman Place #104, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 3/16/1998.

This business was conducted by: a General Partnership: Juancho Vitangcol

JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Application is: Maak Corporation, Sakarabune Japanese Restaurant, 5701 Geary Blvd. San Francisco, Ca. 94121. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 5701 Geary Blvd. San Francisco, Ca. 94121. Type of license Applied for:

41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE

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Lotfi Mansouri's last stand  
SF Opera announces 2001-02 season,  
introduces General Director P. Rosenberg.  
page 27

Sal, we hardly knew ye  
'Sal Mineo, His Life,  
Murder, and Mystery'  
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'Rhino' blast  
Theatre Rhinoceros scores  
with namesake play.  
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# A E NTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 3 • 18 January 2001

## Marlene Dietrich's sisters

6th annual 'Berlin & Beyond' film festival  
opens at the Castro Theatre by Gary Morris

Katja Flint as  
Dietrich in *Marlene*



The vast influence of German-Austrian culture on that most American of institutions, Hollywood, has been well documented. In the 1920s and '30s, waves of European artists and intellectuals arrived in America to try their hand at American culture — and, more specifically, movies. These included talents already established in their native countries like Lubitsch and Lang, as well as newcomers like Billy Wilder and Robert Siodmak. Together with the innumerable screenwriters, art directors, cinematographers, etc. who emigrated, they would radically overhaul the Hollywood commercial film and help give it the nearly religious significance it has in the culture today.

More insidious and less well-known is the modern reversal of that process: US movies exported to European cinemas in place of European films, which have almost vanished in the face of the American cultural juggernaut. Typical estimates say that nowadays, 80 to 90 percent of German movie screens, for example, are showing American movies. Fortunately, some brave souls persist in making "regional cinema" in Europe. Some recent examples are on welcome display at the annual *Berlin & Beyond* film fes-

tival. Now in its sixth year, this fest focuses on German and Austrian films, and throws a few Swiss entries in for good measure. It plays the Castro Theatre January 19-25.

The closing night film will be of special interest to diva worshippers, though it's ultimately disappointing. Despite her enduring popularity, Dietrich is one of the most elusive stars. *Marlene* runs over two hours and concentrates on the period between 1929 and 1945, fictionally tracking her life in Berlin, French-kissing other glamorous babes in nightclubs and on the street, and trying to manage a philandering husband and a budding career.

Dietrich's progress from bisexual Berliner to protégé of Josef von Sternberg (born in Vienna, incidentally) and eventual Hollywood icon is interspersed with sexy vignettes of her affair with "the love of my life," a poetry-spouting German soldier named Carl. Director Joseph Vilsmaier brings a workmanlike attitude to what should be highly volatile material, essentially embalming his subject in the too-respectful manner of Merchant/Ivory. Some viewers, too, will be startled by his vision of a 1930s Hollywood in which Gary Cooper, Louella Parsons, and even the Mexican maid speak fluent German.

Katja Flint does a decent visual impersonation of Dietrich, but it's a thankless task. Trying to pry the mask off someone as secretive as Dietrich appears to be an impossi-

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## What makes another weak lesbian movie?

Brooke, Cherry, Whoopi and Barbra, to start

by Katie Szymanski

Even lesbians with a heterosexual sensibility have probably had a hard time stomaching the Lifetime network for women, a cable channel that redefines "chick flick" to mean anything that amplifies the tragedies of domesticity. The January 22 Lifetime premiere of *What Makes a Family*, based on the true story of a woman who had to fight her deceased lover's parents for custody of her child, is no exception to the station's inherent objective, to make its viewers cry.

Sob you might, but not for the loss of the child, who will obviously return to her mother by the end of the film; and not for the surviving partner played by Brooke Shields, who apparently thinks that believable lesbianism consists of a kiss and unprovoked anger. No, any weeping during this movie will undoubtedly come from one of two triggers: the superb acting of Cherry Jones, who can alternate between sexy dyke and

dying lover in a flash; or the gag-reflex courtship scenario presented as a lesson in how two women fall in love, predictably within one hour of a dance held by the local gay church.

That's not to say there are no twists to *What Makes a Family*, orchestrated by an all-star team of directors including Whoopi Goldberg and Barbra Streisand. But those few shining moments are likely more attributable to the real story behind the film's momentum than they are to the artists' craft. The setting is the grand old state of Florida, where Janine Nielssen (Shields) and Sandy Cataldi (Jones) decide to have a child; and their daughter Heather (Jordy Benattar), birthed by Sandy, is everything they could have hoped for. Even better, Cataldi's parents (Al Waxman and Anne Meara) are a lesbi-wife's wet dream: always smiling, consistently present, and perhaps even suspiciously unaware that their family is less than traditional. But Sandy is soon diagnosed with Lupus, and the next five years are

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Cherry Jones, Jordy Benattar,  
and Brooke Shields in  
*What Makes a Family*



SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



by Roberto Friedman  
and Steinway Grand

We're having a hat wave, an asinine hat wave. How appalling did we find it that the "new, improved" *SF Chronicle* devoted not one, but two different front pages of its *Datebook* section during the holiday season to the makings of a snip 'n' fold party hat? Very appalling. This festive stunt gave *SF*'s only full-service daily paper the *gravitas* of a souvenir puzzle placemat at Howard Johnson's.

Divesting itself of not only snappy columnist Cintra Wilson, but also Rita Dove's poetry column, Matt Groening's cartooning, and yes, even the urban stylings of Lord Martine, has cost the *Chron* some of the true spark of the old *Ex*. Fortunately, two of the departed paper's sharpest critics, music maven Allan Ulrich and art queen David Bonetti, appear to have found safe harbor at the *Chron*. Why doesn't the paper use more of the assets which came with the deal?

Instead, the party-hat beat continues. Last week, a full-color, two-page spread in the comics-stuffed *Datebook* section supplied all the pics one could possibly want of *Chron* readers — who, it appears, really are the type of folk who cut and fold newspaper hats — looking pleased with themselves in their newly-constructed toppers. A snapshot of a clutch of *Chron* readers in a gun-cocked *Charlie's Angels* tableau was given the caption, "This unidentified photo came from Daly City, the pose from Hollywood." And the whole idea in the first place, from *Highlights for Children*.

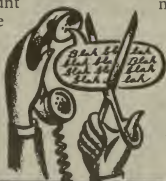
#### Stand and salute

Buried amongst all the pasting puzzles and "fun" features in the *Chron* last week was this compelling news: "Marine Corps Looking for a Few Naked Men." In wire copy from Los Angeles, we read: "The Marine Corps is investigating whether Marines at Twentynine Palms and other bases have posed naked for gay pornography being sold through a website reg-

istered to a San Francisco company, officials said yesterday.

"The investigation began after pornographic pictures allegedly involving Marines were sent anonymously to a weekly newspaper and to **Commandant Gen. James Jones**. Posing naked is a criminal offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice."

Of course if you ask us, the Marine Corps and the pornography industry were just made for each other. To Commandant Jones we say, relax and take that uniform right off! Smile for your fans!



#### Out There

#### District erections

What failed supervisorial candidate from District 6 is getting quite a reputation at Gold's Gym for his compulsive sex addiction? It seems this pierced and hirsute gentleman is a daily visitor to the gym, although he rarely works out. He simply disrobes and heads straight for the steamroom, with his own little plastic bottle of lube, which never leaves his side. His attempts to scare up a little action seem increasingly desperate and pathetic. Dear Sir: if you want a career in politics, you need to stop this now. And oh, by the way, for those who are curious: it's no big thing.

#### Pick-on picaresque

We, and others like us, are just dying to know — now that film star Kathleen Turner is finally



Kathleen Turner as Tallulah

opening at the Curran Theatre in Tallulah, will the *SF Chronicle* dispatch their critic **Edward Guthmann** to review it? We know the stage is not his usual beat, but he seems uniquely qualified to have a go at this one, no?

Wee waif, innocent to the wicked ways of this old world: "Mr. Out There, why are you always picking on poor Mr. Guthmann? Blimey, you don't even know him, and he's not done you any harm!"

OT: "Bless your caring heart, sonny. You see, OT has the memory of an elephant, and we remember when Mr. G appeared, pseudonymously, in a Tallulah revue of his own invention, at a little place called Josie's. The show wasn't open to critics, though it did accept paying customers. We feel that as a professional critic, EG can't have it both ways: he must both eat it and dish it out. As for you, sweet conscientious youth, here's a sou; go buy yourself a bowl of gruel!"

Wee waif (picking the copper coin up from the gutter and finding the nearest Starchucks): "Please sir, I'll have a double decaf soy mocha frapuccino."



Writer/editor Mark Mitchell

#### Kissin cousins

OT readers may not know the name of writer and editor **Mark Mitchell**, but he's been at the receiving end of many plum commissions from big-time publishers in recent years. Mitchell is editor of *The Penguin Book of International Gay Writing* and, with author **David Leavitt**, co-editor of *Pages Passed from Hand to Hand* and *The Penguin Book of Short*

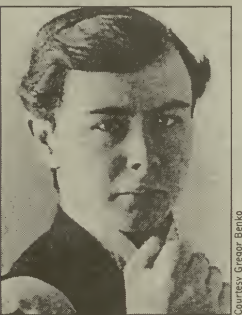
*Stories*. Together, they wrote *Italian Pleasures*. The affiliation with Leavitt seems key to Mitchell's career; did we mention he is Leavitt's companion in expatriation (they live together in Italy)?

Mitchell's new book, *Virtuosi: A Defense and a (Sometimes Erotic) Celebration of Great Pianists* (Indiana University Press), is dedicated to Leavitt. There is a lot to admire in this collection of essays about virtuosi pianists and pianism; but there are also a few cameos by Leavitt in it. For example, here he is, worrying and pacing in Florence when Mitchell is late to return from a concert in Bologna: "I took a taxi from the train station to our apartment, and found David, like **Messalina**, wandering up and down Via dei Neri." What a nervous Nellie one's spouse can be — especially when one is married to DL.

The Classical allusion, by the way, is symptomatic of Mitchell's project as a whole, which skates on the thin ice of pedanticism, then falls in. When discussing the **Evgeny Kissin** concert in Bologna, for example, he gives not only a complete rundown of the 13 encores Kissin played, but also the precise location of his seat (Row P, Seat 27). Footnotes abound.

Mitchell expounds to good effect on all matter of music queen trivia, a case in point: "Is the fact that so many virtuosi are homosexual another reason that the 'virtuous' middle class despised the virtuoso in general? One might even be so bold as to assert that *most* virtuosi are homosexual; that one might more easily say which ones are not homosexual than which ones are."

He also gives entertaining exegesis to the topic of "muscles and musicianship" — there's a great publicity photo of pianist **Josef Hofmann**, circa 1897, flexing his



Pianist Josef Hofmann, circa 1897

biceps — and explains that flamboyant homosexual virtuoso **Vladimir de Pachmann** was "wont to demand the ejection of any ugly old ladies from the front rows of his audience and their replacement with 'hunky' young men — and then would proceed to make eyes at them, dedicate performances to them, blow kisses, and so on."

Mitchell also offers this remarkable anecdote from a concert by piano legend **Martha Argerich**: "During the **Tchaikovsky** she did something violent that made me love her even more: when her page-turner messed up during 'Trepak' — small wonder, given the speed Argerich and [pianist **Vadim**] **Suchanov** were playing — she struck her and turned to the proper page herself." Now *that's* a vengeful virtuoso.

We often sit at our computer keyboard and tap away while we listen to the acoustic kind of keyboard. Right now we're listening to some lovely piano-playing on the new *Romantic Piano* disc from a Seattle pianist, **David Barela**, who is unafraid to play



Seattle pianist David Barela

bravura **Liszt** ("Liebestraum" and Liszt's transcription of **Wagner's** "Isolde's Liebestod"). Barela does the showpieces well, like **Debussy's** "The Sunken Cathedral" and a **Chopin** Nocturne. But it is in the "smaller" pieces that we like this CD best, such as **Rachmaninoff's** "Moment Musical No. 5" and gay composer **Samuel Barber's** "Hesitation-Tango." You can find out more at Barela's record company, [www.dg-brecords.com](http://www.dg-brecords.com). ▼

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## OPERA

# A season in Hell

## Enter SF Opera General Director designate Pamela Rosenberg

by Stephanie von Buchau

With the passing of Herb Caen, the San Francisco Opera's most engaging comedy act — Caen's pre-announcement of the coming season — came to an end. There hasn't been anything humorous about SFO announcements since. Caen loved the Byzantine excitement of opera, but he didn't know squat about singing. While half his entries would be more-or-less correct, the other half would have opera-lovers in stitches for weeks.

My all-time favorite was his announcement that Joan Sutherland would sing the trouser role of Leonore in *Fidelio*. Sutherland's husband and mentor, Richard Bonynge, said something like not bloody likely, adding, "Why should Joan be an ordinary German rep singer when she's the greatest bel canto specialist in the world?"

At last week's grim press conference to introduce the new General Director designate, Pamela Rosenberg, a dry, tedious announcement of the 2001-2002 season preceded the introduction, undercutting Rosenberg's official bow. She is on record as having nothing to do with General Director Lotfi Mansouri's last season (I like the woman already), but she's got a major overhaul in attitude and press relations to deal with. Not only was Mansouri not there, but questions were not entertained after the season announcement.

So here, for the benefit of inquiring minds, are some of the questions and observations I might have made had opportunity been provided. If I sound grumpy, it is because the disparity between the good stuff (i.e. last season's *Semele*) and bad stuff (*The Magic Flute* first cast) has grown so wide that humor will no longer cover the gap.

1) *Arshak II*, the Armenian opera project, despite what you may have read on the 'Net, which I gather is politically acrimonious, is actually the original 1868 version by Tigran Chukhadjian. My guess is that it will sound something like Carlos Gomes' *Il Guarany* (1870), and frankly, I'd rather hear that than yet another *Madama Butterfly*.

2) The divine Olga Borodina (she's taken over the title from the divine Sena Jurinac) finally sings Dalila, ages after the Saint-Saens arias at her Davies Hall debut recital melted all but the stoniest hearts. She is now, hands down, the sexiest woman in opera, and they have given her a worthy partner in tenor Sergei Larin, so why spoil the effect with conductor Emmanuel Joel, who has not produced a single adequate performance in the War Memorial?

### Overexposed madam

3) And *Tosca* again? *Madama Butterfly* again? Yes, I want to hear Eva Urbanová, a major international talent (though it might be better to hear her in her native Czech), but we've had *Tosca* twice already since the 1997 retrofit. Then Rosenberg announces *Butterfly* again for 2002 as part of her philosophical repertoire revamp, titled "Women Outside of Society: Laws Unto Themselves." Golly, but



Pamela Rosenberg

I think Manon Lescaut and *Fanciulla's* Minnie fit that description better than the overexposed Cio-Cio-San.

4) Not only is the lightweight, musical comedy casting of John Del Carlo and Nancy Gustafson an insult to Verdi's *Falstaff*, but could somebody please tell me why it and the season's other comedy, *Die Meistersinger*, are both conducted by the heavy-handed Donald Runnicles? I know he's a 600-pound gorilla who will conduct what he wants, but the dour Scot is not my idea of a good-time guy. Sir Charles Mackerras would have been a better choice for either opera, but Sir Charles is not scheduled next season. A question directed to Rosenberg about the future of Sir Charles and Patrick Summers (SFO's two most consistently inspired leaders) was met with glib reassurances.

5) Franz Léhar's *Die Lustige Witwe* is a marvelous piece when it is taken seriously, given in German, with Prince Danilo sung by a tenor as the composer intended, and bright, terse dialogue. The original, without the tacked-on overture, contains about 70 minutes of music. "Broadway" Mansouri's *The Merry Widow*, on the other hand, with a baritone Danilo and a new dialogue script by Wendy Wasserstein, is scheduled to take three-and-a-half hours. Was kann Ich sagen?

Rosenberg refused to comment on the 2001-2002 season for obvious reasons, including James Morris snarling "Wahn, Wahn" out of the side of his mouth, the inexplicable return of inadequate tenors Walter Fraccaro and Zoran Todorovich, stolid Elizabeth Connell as the Kostelnicka in a city that has watched Sena Jurinac and Leonie Rysanek scorch the earth, and a vapid, movie-star Carmen with a Miss America mezzo.

Yet her own announcements bordered on the eye-glazing. It seemed as if the philosophy department of Wittenberg U. was going to take over the company as Rosenberg named her German production teams. One backstage

insider told me that working with the Germans was generally exhausting, as they had no sense of humor unless someone slipped on a banana peel.

Of course, Rosenberg's choices are influenced by the fact that she has been producing opera in Europe for many years, though she is an American who studied at the University of California, Berkeley from 1962-66 and stood at many of those same formative SFO performances I did during those years. Rosenberg particularly mentioned standing twice to hear Pilar Lorengar in *Die Meistersinger*, heartening to me not just because the late Spanish soprano is my all-time favorite opera star, but because Lorengar lived and worked in Germany all her professional life without ever losing that fresh, spontaneous Latin temperament.

### Theme park

Obviously wanting to make a distinctive statement, Rosenberg unveiled a "five-year plan" that on paper seems to encompass 2002-2005 (maybe math is not her strong suit?). It offers an overlapping thematic approach to opera in various series: the *Faust* legend; outsiders (male, including Billy Budd, and female, already discussed); fairy tales (including Rimsky's *The Golden Cockerel*; pray that they try for Yuri Temirkanov to conduct); and modern works starting with Messiaen's *Saint Francis of Assisi* (though not in the Peter Sellars production, a lucky escape driven home by the puerile Sellars setting of John Adams' luminous *El Niño* at the SF Symphony the same week as the opera announcement), Virgil Thomson's *The Mother of Us All*, and a work by either Ligeti, Zimmermann, Nono or Rihm, all of them heavy, serious and tedious.

At one point, Rosenberg must have realized that her recitation was causing the press to react as if there were going to be a pop quiz, because she suddenly perked up and declared, "These intellectual ideas must be fleshed out by stimulating, sensual, fun evenings in the theater." No singers were announced for the Rosenberg years — she coyly suggested that she needed to keep something back for future announcements — but some of what I have heard from reliable sources is not reassuring — mainly retreads, other people's discoveries, and singers I'd pay to stay away. You can fill in your own list.

The bottom line was that, while the intellectual apparatus must be seen in motion before we know if it works, Rosenberg does seem to hew to the great composers theory of musical art. She was adamant that there would be no more "commissions every year" because that, in her view, does not allow enough gestation and development time.

Okay, but people are writing new works of interest; why force us to choose between the hard-nosed European composers of the second half of the 20th century and the wishy-washy Americans of the Mansouri regime? Again, we'll have to wait and see. More important than new repertory choices, however, is how the old rep is cast and maintained. I'd

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# Beastly behavior

'Rhinoceros' at Theatre Rhinoceros

by Richard Dodds



Alexis Lezin and P.A. Cooley in *Rhinoceros*

Someday soon, I hope, the dot-com industry will no longer be invoked as a contemporary metaphor for everything from Moliere to Mamet. Now you can add to the list Eugene Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*, in which a cautionary tale about the rise of fascism has been reduced to a complaint about those insidious dot-commers who, at least until recently, threatened to create a city of million-dollar starter homes.

Actually, at Theatre Rhinoceros, where Ionesco's absurdist classic is getting the SF treatment, the original intent is not so easily trampled by a few localized props and sight gags. Ionesco, who had a front-row seat to the terrors that culminated in World War II, used a comically bizarre scenario to demonstrate the ease with which seemingly four-square folk can succumb to the lure of an even evil conformity.

If the relocation to San Francisco is only weakly invoked (Phil Rabe's set is little more than an anonymous brick wall), what does work surprisingly well in director Colman Domingo's production is the gayification of the characters'

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# Showgirl abducted

'Copacabana' in San Jose

by Richard Dodds

Barry Manilow never wanted to be a pop singer. What he really wanted to do was write for the musical theater. At least that's the refrain he's been delivering to interviewers as his musical *Copacabana* makes its way across America.

But Manilow did become a pop singer, and one of such a distinct style that when it fell out of favor, he morphed into a joke rather than a nostalgia act. Now that he is writing for theater, that reputation is bound to create conflicting preconceptions that could keep as many away as it lures in.

The fact is, the new songs Manilow has composed to flesh out a story based on his hit song "Copacabana" aren't bad. They're certainly better than the Broadway drivel of, say, a *Titanic*. But Manilow's name is also on the book, and it's about as lame as it gets. His co-conspirators are Jack Feldman and Bruce Sussman, who also provided the lyrics to Manilow's music. The lyrics are harder to rate, so harsh is the amplification at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts.

Manilow has basically asked us to forgive the book, which he acknowledges is "naive," and instead think of the show as a tribute to the MGM Technicolor musicals of yore. It's true, the numbers do evoke old movie musicals, but in fairly pedestrian fashion. There are some lively dances provided by choreographer Wayne Cilento, but the numbers are more forgettable than flashy.

Inspired perhaps by the Broadway musical *City of Angels*, the story uses a framing device of a songwriter banging out the song "Copacabana" who imagines him-



Manilow's musical: 'More forgettable than flashy.'

self in its story. The expanded tale focuses on Lola, an aspiring showgirl just off the bus from Tulsa, who lands a gig at the Copacabana with the help of an undiscovered songwriter named Tony. All is well until the nefarious Rico takes a shine to Lola, drugs her, and whisks her off to his nightclub in Havana, where she is forced to perform. The ending, unlike the song's, is happy.

Darcie Roberts plays Lola with such a thickly comic country-bumpkin accent that it's hard to image all these men falling over themselves for her. Franco D'Ambrosio is appealing as Tony, though his years in *The Phantom of the Opera* have left him with a

breathy voice that grows pinched in the upper registers. Philip Hernandez is dastardly excellent as Rico, so effectively played that the audience applauded his demise.

*Copacabana* is directed by David Warren, who is ill-remembered in these parts as the man who staged the tour of *Jekyll & Hyde*. If his efforts on this newer project are not exactly scintillating, at least they're not a cause for derision. ▼

*Copacabana* will run at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts through Jan. 28. Tickets are \$40-\$60. Call (888) 455-SHOW.



## THEATRE

# The eternal hustle

## ACT does David Mamet

by Richard Dodds

**G**lengarry Glen Ross isn't an ACT kind of show, and that is meant as a compliment. The soulless haze that settles over so much of what transpires in the gilded Geary Theatre is stripped away in a sharp staging of David Mamet's high-octane drama. Even the set by Loy Arcenas creates a bit of a start as its solid realism is revealed.

Glengarry Glen Ross represented the epitome of what we now call "Mametesque" when it opened in 1984. While time has dated some of the specifics, the play's dramatic intensity is undiminished. Director Les Waters' production, despite one or two cast miscalculations, knows how to maximize that intensity.

The play is lean and mean, so different from the linguistically ornate selections that ACT favors, and all the more bracing for this contrast. Mamet doesn't give you any more than you need to know at any moment, launching into scenes mid-conversation in a way that pulls us in as we seek out the context.

Glengarry Glen Ross must have the highest number of variations on "fuck" of any Pulitzer Prize-winning play. While it has become a cliché to talk about the poetry of Mamet's profanity, this production reminds us of the truth behind the cliché. Monologues can become arias of angry language, while dialogues often turn into harsh duets. The trick, admirably managed here, is to capture the music while preserving the reality of the words.

The short first act is made up of three scenes set in a Chinese restaurant as various deals are made and unmade, one of which sets up the situation that opens the second act: the burglary of important customer leads from the real estate office. A bit of mystery infuses the action, but this is not a whodunit, but rather a why-do-they-keep-doing-it. The eternal hustle for these men is a misery that nonetheless defines who they are.

The cast is mostly exemplary. ACT regular Mario Barricelli, who lobbied on behalf of Glengarry Glen Ross, creates a powerful, seductive, and angry Richard Roma,

the top salesman in the office. Equally effective is Tony Amendola as Shelley Levene, a Willy Loman-type who counters his current failures with tales of past sales triumphs.

Rod Gnapp hits just the right notes as the easily corruptible office manager, a superficially attractive character who exemplifies the tyranny of the weak. Matt Gottlieb takes the nervous tics almost to the edge as another salesman, and James Carpenter goes over the edge with his neurotically fussy performance as a duped customer. Brian Keith Russell is fine as a gruff detective, but John Apicella's performance as a salesman is a little mushy.

It's unnecessary to invoke dot-com connections, as the director has done in interviews, to help justify the play's relevancy. The bottom-feeding real estate salesmen who populate Glengarry Glen Ross are the antithesis of the denizens of the new economy,



John Apicella and Matt Gottlieb in Glengarry Glen Ross

representing an ethos of long-haul survival that is ruthless but not without rules. Even the dishonorable need a code of honor. ▼

Glengarry Glen Ross will run at the Geary Theatre through Feb. 4. Tickets are \$19-\$61. Call 749-2228.

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## SF Opera

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rather see one dozen miserable new operas than one more hideously cast *Il Trovatore*.

Finally, on an upbeat note, Rosenberg announced that in 2005, San Francisco Opera will give the complete Berlioz *Les Troyens*. It is hyperbole to call it "the first complete staging in America" (what did they do at the Met and in Los Angeles?), just as it is breaking your arm patting your back to inform us that Janacek, another Rosenberg enthusiasm, was "neglected" in the Bay Area. SFO, whatever its faults, was doing Janacek before anyone else in this country and most opera houses in Europe. We've heard multiple versions of *Makropoulos Case*, *Katya Kabanova* and *Jenufa* at SFO, plus Kent Nagano has performed *Excursions of Mr. Broucek* and *Cunning Little Vixen*.

I have a feeling this is going to be a bumpy ride, but I wouldn't miss it for the world. Stay tuned. ▼

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# Roll out the future

## John Adams' piano concerto on CD

by Michael McDonagh

Berkeley composer John Adams made his breakthrough with his first opera, *Nixon in China* (1985-86), and he's been on the classical map ever since. Easily the most successful and closely followed of all baby boomer composers, Adams has, like the Minimalist he most reveres, Steve Reich, produced a small but steadily impressive series of works, which Nonesuch celebrated last year with a 10-CD set. The company's latest Adams release contains three pieces. Two are from the boxed set, so obviously the big news here is the world premiere recording of the composer's first piano concerto, *Century Rolls* (1996), with the Cleveland Orchestra under Christoph von Dohnanyi, and Emanuel Ax as soloist. And it shows the composer we've all grown to love, hate, or have mixed feelings about.

Why mixed feelings, you ask? Well, Adams writes very skillful music, but sometimes his facility has got in the way of real expressivity. He certainly knows a lot, but erudition isn't enough, and knowing what to say separates the men from the boys. Stravinsky was a learned composer, too, and after re-inventing the language of music in pieces like *The Rite of Spring* (1913), he made an about-face, and began to write in baroque and classical forms. You could even argue, as Virgil Thom-

son has, that the Russian spent the greater part of his creative life evoking the history of music.

Adams has got himself into a similar fix by turning to mid-to-late-19th century forms, which he sometimes just tweaks. That lame post-grad student joke *Grand Piano Music* (1982) is a perfect example. The references are easy and obvious, and the styles don't mix.

But his piano concerto really sounds like a fresh take on this three-movement form: the bottle may be old, but Adams seems to have poured new wine in it. The first movement begins lightly enough, with high, bright, dry and sonorous winds, brass and strings. Then the piano enters with a pulsed repetitive figure which begins to change and interact with the orchestra in a surprising parade of styles — boogie woogie, woozy society music, waltz bits,

and others in "a kind of automatic re-writing of the pianola music of the [20th] century" (Adams). Gone are the glib, stylistic gear-shifts of the composer's other concertos — the clarinet, *Gnarly Buttons* (1996), and the monotonous and anti-expressive 1993 one for violin.

Even the slow central movement with its disembodied oompah straight out of Satie seems genuinely

touching, though the real moment here is the Mozartean slow movement of Ravel's Piano Concerto in G (1929-1931). Maybe hiding behind the personae of these two French masters released his New England rectitude. Let's just say it works.

And the finale's fast, chopped-up rhythms work, too. The Cleveland masters its intricacies and projects its verve, and though one always expects Emanuel Ax to be brilliant, he's rarely as supple and spontaneous as he is here. And speaking of exuberant, you'd be hard-pressed to find anything as brash as Adams' big-band *Lollapalooza* (1995), and *Slonimsky's Earbox* (1998), which takes off from Stravinsky's *Nightingale*. Kent Nagano and Britain's Hallé Orchestra find the ebullient charm in each. And Nonesuch's sound is warm and reasonably lifelike, too. ▼

## Rhinoceros

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sensibilities. While it doesn't really change the play's basic messages, it provides a connection to Theatre Rhino's audience. It's also fun.

In the play, a group of friends and co-workers are going about their mundane business when a rhinoceros suddenly charges down the street. Some are horrified by this sudden display of anarchy, while others are either complacent or disbelieving. But soon these colleagues realize that people they know and even love are turning into rhinos, and as more and more join the ranks, the more irresistible the lure becomes.

An unlikely hero in all of this is Berenger, an office worker who

parties too much, and who complains, "I just can't get used to life." But Berenger becomes an increasingly lonely holdout in the stampede to join the rhinos. Alexis Lezin is playing the male role, easily transforming it into a lesbian character whose unshaven ways are underarm rather than facial. Lezin delivers a young and jaunty performance that grows increasingly serious as the play progresses.

Berenger's best friend is Jean, who is amusingly and not inappropriately turned into a nelly queen by P.A. Cooley. When Cooley, who has an aura of Nathan Lane about him, remarks, "I think straight. I always think straight," it gets an extra laugh. But playing Jean as a sissy makes his transformation into a gruff and snorting rhino all the more frightening. The production gets an extra dose

of LGBTQQ sensibilities from Brian Yates Sharber's forceful portrayal of a drag queen.

Nora El Samahy has a quirky, appealing quality as Berenger's love interest, and Andrew Bayers shows up provocatively as a buff and bare-chested fireman. Kathryn Seaborn, Millissa Carey, and Kim Larsen reasonably play various other roles.

*Rhinoceros* is off the beaten track for Theatre Rhino, which was recently camping with *Cleopatra* and unveiling *Naked Boys Singing*. But by sifting this classic work through a gay sensibility, it expands both the play's and the audience's horizons. ▼

*Rhinoceros* will run at Theatre Rhino through Feb. 10. Tickets are \$15-\$20. Call 861-5079.

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# The screen's first gay teen

The life of Sal Mineo in new biography

by Tavo Amador

When dark-eyed Sal Mineo gazed longingly at James Dean in 1955's *Rebel Without a Cause*, he reflected such potent, unspoken teenage homoeroticism, that nearly half a century later, it still breaks a viewer's heart. Like many actors whose primary appeal was to young audiences, his stardom was short. Speculation linked his 1976 murder at age 37 to his being openly gay. In *Sal Mineo, His Life, Murder, and Mystery* (Carroll and Graf, \$25), biographer H. Paul Jeffers sorts out facts from fiction.

Born Salvatore Mineo, Jr. in the Bronx in 1939 to Italian working-class immigrants, as a child he studied singing and dancing. In 1950, legendary lesbian producer Cheryl Crawford cast him in Tennessee Williams' *The Rose Tattoo*. He had one line: "The goat is in the yard." Two years later, he understudied, then played the prince in Rogers and Hammerstein's *The King and I*, starring Yul Brynner and Gertrude Lawrence.

He worked in television, then in its infancy. His film debut came

in 1955, as the young Tony Curtis in *Six Bridges to Cross*, about a Brink's robbery, shot on location in Boston. In Hollywood for post-production work, he landed in a Charlton Heston program, *The Private War of Major Benson*, playing a cadet. Then he heard Warners was casting teenagers as gang members in a B picture they hoped would capitalize on the unexpected success of *Blackboard Jungle*.

That movie, *Rebel Without a Cause*, starred James Dean as Jim Stark. During his test, Mineo told director Nicholas Ray he didn't want to be a gang member — he wanted to play Plato, the lonely rich boy with the silent crush on Jim. Ray, whom Jeffers fails to identify as bisexual, had his doubts, but the chemistry between Dean and Mineo convinced him to use the youngster whose own sexual orientation had not yet manifested itself. Throughout filming, the bisexual Dean encouraged Mineo to express romantic feelings for Jim. According to Jeffers, Ray had Jim kiss Plato, a scene that was cut. Later in life, Mineo talked openly about his crush on Dean, which neither

acted upon. But those emotions undoubtedly contributed to the exceptional erotic charge between their characters, daring for its day, and to Jim's furious grief over Plato's death.

## Idol time

*Rebel* created a sensation, earning Mineo a Best Supporting Oscar nomination, which he lost to Jack Lemmon in *Mister Roberts*. He became a teen idol. But his next secondary assignments typecast him as a young hood, *Crime in the Streets* and *Somebody Up There Likes Me* (both 1956). In the latter, Paul Newman replaced Dean, who had been killed in an automobile accident. Also that year, Mineo had a tiny part in George Stevens' *Giant*, Dean's final film, but they had no scenes together.

Jeffers insists that Mineo was big box office at this time, but, while his few starring vehicles (*Dino*, *The Gene Krupa Story*) did well, they were minor B pictures aimed at the fickle teenage market. His last good part came in Otto Preminger's *Exodus* (1960), getting him another Best Sup-

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Sal Mineo as Plato in *Rebel Without a Cause*

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# Reality bites

by Victoria A. Brownworth

If it's Twelfth Night, it must be the eve of reality TV season. Again. As if the election debate weren't enough reality TV for a millennium, January brings debuts of ABC's *The Mole*, Fox's *Temptation Island*, *Pop Stars* on the WB, and soon, CBS's much-anticipated *Survivor II*. (NBC continues to concentrate on the non-reality shows that have made it the top-rated network. Hmmm.)

We loved *Survivor*, so we were willing to give the new reality shows a peek. And peek is what you'll be doing if you watch the relentlessly heterosexual and unrelentingly sleazy *Temptation Island*. Four couples go to an island off Belize, where good-looking skills are planted to try and tempt the couples away from each other. This peep show is icky. And it's in the same time slot as NBC's fabulous *The West Wing*. *Temptation Island* would work as aversion therapy for being straight.

*Pop Stars* is the girl version of *Making the Band*. 'Nuf said. Rent *Fame* or go see *The Last Dance* with smart, sexy, queer-friendly Julia Stiles instead. Stiles was on *Politically Incorrect* last week, where it gave us a little *frisson* to see a chic, sexy, 21-year-old with great — that is, left — politics not only speaking her mind but having one.

*The Mole* is the reality show to watch. Hosted by the former senior anchor of ABC's queerish and quirky *World News Now*, Anderson Cooper (who is also the son of Gloria Vanderbilt), *The Mole* blends espionage and action for a fun '60s feel. Cooper is the perfect host, acerbic and arch, but thus far, the 10 players are no *Survivors*. Perhaps their personalities will begin to come alive as the show progresses. In the interim, this is B programming, not the A+ of *Survivor*.

## Creep parade

We're not sure how to rate the other reality TV of the past week. That would be ABC's lock on interviews with creepy Republican women. Diane Sawyer interviewed Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris on *Prime Time*

and *Good Morning America* all week. On the heels of her placement on Mr. Blackwell's worst-dressed list, Harris appeared sans the *Cabaret* make-up and hooker outfits. She wore an understated navy pants suit (though with a colored scarf around her neck) and had her hair pulled back in a discreet ponytail.

Sawyer probed Harris on a range of election issues. Harris denied having a "relationship" with Jeb Bush, but acknowledged Gore may have won the election. D'ya think?

Meanwhile, she's baaack! Linda Tripp told Nancy Collins on 20/20 she was "so ugly I scared myself." To which we can only say, too bad Tripp didn't get the heart and soul implants to go with the face lifts, because she still scares the hell out of real humans. Apparently, even though the Clinton term is up in a nanosecond, there is still another 15 minutes to be eked out for Tripp, who called Clinton an

"equal opportunity philanderer" (as if she would know) and referred to Monica Lewinsky as a "young, unstable, volatile and potentially dangerous young lady" who was "crazy and obsessed" (as opposed to Tripp, who is merely crazy.)

When Collins asked if Tripp thought Hillary knew about the Lewinsky affair, Tripp, in the smarmiest quote of the year thus far, said, "I don't think she knew every time Monica was on her knees in the Oval Office."

Can we all say, "Ewww?" The most disturbing part of the interview was that Tripp's seemingly normal and quite attractive children were involved. Ryan and Allison, just off to college and looking like the boy and girl next door, applauded their mother's courage as if she had shielded Jews from the Nazis during World War II. All that was missing was someone singing

"What I Did for Love" in the background.

On the subject of unattractive and creepy Republican women, Laura Bush also made Mr. Blackwell's list, which comes as no surprise to us. The purple plaid suit she wore to meet Hillary Clinton looked like she had stalked a bar-colourer, gutted it and then slipped on the skin. We were shocked to find the First Lady of Texas actually has a designer for her clothes. We were certain they came from an upholstery catalogue.

Diane Sawyer actually interviewed said designer on *GMA* to discuss Miz Bush's wardrobe. The soignée Sawyer (who has never been on anyone's worst-dressed list) managed to do the interview without saying anything bitchy. Meanwhile, the Dallas designer (how very '80s!) from Yokum (sure that isn't Yokel?), Texas, Michael Faircloth, screamed and flitted his way around the *GMA* stage showing his designs. We haven't seen such queeniness since the last episode of *Will & Grace*.

This leaves us wondering if

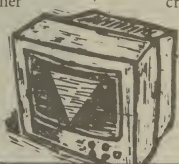
Faircloth is just having a queen-sized joke on the Republicans (maybe that purple plaid was a lavender statement?). We hate to think any queer would have such bad taste as to design ugly dresses or to do so for the homophobic Bushes.

Faircloth's design for Laura's inaugural gown is red with 40 pounds of beading. Like Miz Bush needs another 40 pounds on her. Faircloth says it will take ten women 100 hours each to sew on the beads. We hear Linda Chavez might have some cheap labor over at her place.

## The Bubba years

ABC was just the political network last week. *Nightline* devoted the entire week to Clinton's presidency — or at least their version of it. One has to give ABC credit for consistency. Down to the last second, they are unrelentingly anti-Clinton. *The Clinton Years* managed to ignore a single positive moment in the eight years Clinton was prez, but managed to replay the famous "I did not have

next page ►



## Lavender Tube

## Makes a Family

◀ Arts cover

centered around denying the harsh reality that she is not going to make it. She dies without a will.

Suddenly, the grandparents we have come to trust are claiming custody of the child, and Florida law favors them in two ways: for one, blood relatives are given preference in guardianship proceedings, and secondly, homosexuals are prohibited from adopting.

## Pink slip

Enter Whoopi, who of course cannot resist a guest appearance as Terry Harrison, the civil rights lawyer who will save the day. Goldberg performs as she often does in serious roles, with a lazy confidence and a smattering of humor that leaves viewers longing for her stand-up days. Only when she advises Shields to get a "little pink dress" for her day in court before a homophobic judge are we allowed to crack a smile. Otherwise, we are supposed to be spellbound by her brilliant trial tactics

that manage to confuse the elderly defendants; instead, we are left pondering the miraculous ease in which an African American female convinces the most conservative judge in one of the most backwards states to lend a sympathetic ear to a dyke with no legal right to be there. But hey, it happens.

The publicity for *What Makes a Family* claims that it is "profoundly moving" and will "help break barriers and advance equality for gay and lesbian Americans by showing that love makes a family." In truth, the film is nothing you haven't seen or heard before, and is perhaps best-suited to any heterosexual liberal member of P-FLAG you may know. For as cathartic as this movie wants to be, it simply won't win over the hearts of bashers and phobes, particularly if it is relying on the maternal bond between Shields and Benattar that one must strain to notice. Only if "groundbreaking" means preaching to the choir will this film go down in history. ▼

*What Makes a Family* premieres Monday, January 22, 9 p.m. on Lifetime cable network.



Cherry Jones and Brooke Shields in *What Makes a Family*

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# Matching French beauties

by Will Shank

*The Young Girls of Rochefort*  
Written and directed by Jacques Demy, music by Michel Legrand (Miramax Home Entertainment)

All singing! All dancing! In French with English subtitles! The appearance, almost midway through *The Young Girls of Rochefort*, of Gene Kelly, the archetypal Hollywood song-and-dance man, should not come as a huge surprise, even though in 1967 he was somewhat past his prime. Never has a more exuberant view of life as seen through the eyes of the movie musical director been put on screen, and the perpetually grinning dancer is its perfect hero. But except for the presence of Kelly, this is a completely French film.

After a too-long hiatus between its theatrical re-release in

gloriously restored Technicolor, the videotape version of the French film finally became available for home viewers this fall, for the first time with English subtitles. Demy created a unique pair of light-and-dark films in the 1960s, with *Rochefort* the lighter-than-a-feather fantasy, and his brilliantly melancholy *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg* (1964) the most poignant story ever filmed about lost love. The 1990s restorations of both films were a labor of love of his widow, Agnès Varda.

Like *Cherbourg*, the later film is set in a French port town, but instead of the incessant rain that falls on the *parapluies* of the young lovers of *Cherbourg*, in *Rochefort* the sun always shines, the houses are painted bright pastel colors, and the actors' wardrobes match the flowered wallpaper of the interiors. The outrageous look of the Demy films owes much to contemporary



Catherine Deneuve and Françoise Dorléac in *The Young Girls of Rochefort*

Jean-Luc Godard films, whose colors are intended to shock and disturb, but in the magical world of

*Rochefort*, the fantastical set decoration is a pure delight.

Plot? There isn't much, beyond

a Shakespearean comedy sort of farce about the wistful longing for true love and an omniscient view of prospective lovers' barely-missed connections, but what a cast plays it out! As the Garnier twins, ballet teacher Delphine and composer Solange, Catherine Deneuve and her real-life older sister Françoise Dorléac glow in their candy-colored dresses (and their oh-so-obvious wigs) as they sing and dance about getting-out-of-this-lousy-provincial-town-and-going-to-Paris! Their mother (Danielle Darrieux), who runs the local portside cafe, pines away for her lost love, the father of her by-the-way-in-1967-illegitimate-son Boo-Boo, because she hated his surname and didn't want to be "Madame Dame."

Don't worry, this story, too, has a happy ending. In the meantime, a visiting street fair, led by George Chakiris and Grover Dale, comes to town, and the cafes, the streets, the interiors all become one large soundstage full of exuberant dancers.

As every cherished minute of the two-hour fantasy rolls by, another character sings of love, or of hope, or dances like Astaire and Rogers to a Rachmaninoff-like piano fantasia playing in a music store, gazing into the eyes of his newfound paramour. Only the sad real-life tragedy of the death of Dorléac in a car accident at age 25 dims the splendor of *The Young Girls of Rochefort*. Imagine what the continued pairings of these French beauties might have brought to the history of cinema! ▼

## Lavender Tube

◀ previous page

sexual relations with that woman" speech several times, interview all the folks who now have jobs with ABC since they stopped working for Clinton, and peep once again through the sordid keyhole opened by Tripp and Kenneth Starr.

But Clinton certainly has gotten the last laugh. The Republicans had to steal the election to woo the White House away from Clinton, et al. And Clinton, tough as the past eight years have been, looks fabulous, sounds fabulous and is a mere four pounds heavier (though a lot grayer) than he was when he started. Talk about fight-

ing weight.

Clinton has barreled through the last days of his presidency sticking it to the Republicans every chance he got, which one would never know from watching the networks. (PBS is good for some things.) Appointing black judges, protecting millions of acres of land, and saying repeatedly that Al Gore won the election and Bush and Co. stole it. All of which Clinton did with a smile and that inimitable thumb in the air.

Speaking of Democrats we love, on *Meet the Press* Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass) reminded those who might have forgotten (oh Log Cabin boys, are you listening?) that Bush Attorney General-designate Sen. John Ashcroft was one

of only two senators (the other being our old pal Jesse Helms) to vote against the appointment of James Hormel as Ambassador to Luxembourg. Kerry noted he would be wary of an Attorney General who "views being a gay man as a status offense."

And we also loved seeing Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif) leading the call to invalidate Florida's Electoral College votes last week when the election was formally ratified by Vice-President Al Gore. Brava, Maxine. We just named our new cat for you!

Also, ABC should be commended for breaking mainstream silence on the issue of Catholic priests and AIDS. Religion editor Peggy Wehmeyer's 20/20 report on the topic was moving, comprehensive and terribly damning to the church.

Don't forget to watch the inauguration on Saturday — it'll be sort of like the Super Bowl. Laura Bush will look like a linebacker, and Dubya won't be able to get through the whole pledge without fumbling. Yes, we miss the Clintons already. ▼

## Sal Mineo

◀ page 31

porting Actor nod from the Academy, this time losing to Peter Ustinov in *Spartacus*. Mineo would make only eight more feature films, the last being *Escape From Planet of the Apes* (1971). Most of his roles were secondary, although he starred as a woman-hating youth in the inept cult favorite, *Who Killed Teddy Bear?* (1965).

In his twenties, Mineo realized he was gay and, according to Jeffers, didn't hide the fact. This undoubtedly hurt his career, although he worked steadily on television until his death. He also turned to the stage, directing and starring in two pioneering if not very good plays with homosexual themes, *Fortune and Men's Eyes* (1969) and *P.S., Your Cat Is Dead* (1976). In the former, produced Off-Broadway, he played a gay prison inmate who rapes a new arrival; in the latter, staged in San Francisco, he was a bisexual burglar.

Jeffers knew Mineo for many years. This is both a strength and a weakness, because it colors his objectivity about Mineo's actual achievements. The book is sketchy on important information, including how Mineo squandered his allegedly substantial earnings. On the other hand, Jeffers intelligently speculates about his murder, which appears to have been opportunistic rather than pre-meditated. Few facts support claims that the killing was related to his sexuality or alleged drug use. But doubts remain as to whether the convicted murderer



Soaping up for *Fortune*...

was the actual killer.

Typecasting as "The Switch Blade Kid" hurt Mineo, as did changing tastes in leading men. Despite Jeffers' assertions, he did not show much range as an actor. His tragic, untimely death makes speculation about his future as a director or actor moot. But he achieved screen immortality as the first gay teenager, which is a powerful enough legacy. ▼

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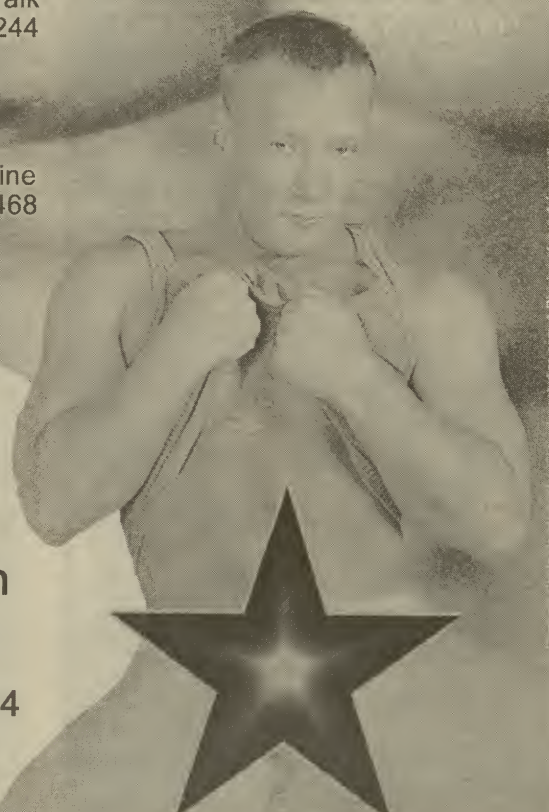
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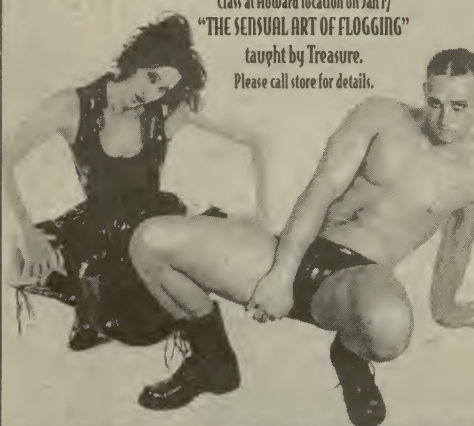


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# NYC's Marino wins MAL

by Mister Marcus

He's 30 years old, tall and handsome, an activist with strong ties to GMSMA and other leather-oriented organizations in New York City, single and his name is Michael Marino, now Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather 2001. He was sashed at around 1730 hours at Nations in Washington, DC last Sunday afternoon, January 14.

To earn the title he first had to impress the judges and win out over other tough competitors. A handsome group, every one of the men who competed was knowledgeable in almost all aspects of the Leather Nation, and most of the men are professionals of the highest caliber in their various fields. The contenders: David Bernard, David Blumenthal, Bill Coover, Arne Grandell, John Marino, Mike Marino, John Ramos and Mark Teesdale created above-average eye candy for the enthusiastic audience.

Judges Tom Robinson, IML Mike Taylor, IML Jo Blas, IML 96 Joe Gallagher, former Centaur MC prez John Rocco, Randall "Bear Man" Kent and Whitman Walker Clinic executive Director Cornelius Baker, faced the eight contenders in pre-judging interviews and scoring in the usual categories.

The first runner-up was Mark Teesdale (Mr. Double L Leather) from Rehoboth Beach, Delaware and there was a tie for second place between John Marino of upstate New York and Bill Coover, Mr. NE Pennsylvania Leather. Mr. Coover also won the Brotherhood Award via the votes of the 8 contestants who vied for the most widely-known East Coast leather competition.

A crowd of almost 2000 leather men and women descended upon Washington, DC to take part in these winter leather games, and the lobby of the host Washington Plaza Hotel was a slightly smaller version of Chicago's Congress Hotel during IML weekend.

Huge groups from Utica, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco and cities and towns all along the Eastern Seaboard were represented, and some 85 bike



The Mid-Atlantic Leather 2001 winners were (from left) John Marino, second runner-up; Mike Marino, the title winner, and Mark Teesdale, first runner-up. They were chosen last Sunday, January 14 at Nations in Washington, DC.

clubs were onstage with their "colours" during the "leather cocktails" party and almost gourmet-quality feed on Saturday night at Nations.

On Sunday afternoon, after the magnificent brunch, almost 200 leather title holders from all over the US and Canada (and even one from Germany) were presented to the cheering crowd.

There were parties all over the place including booze-and-food gatherings, play parties, fisting parties, water-sports parties — and on Saturday night, the prevailing question was "who let the dogs out?" as more than a dozen people were barking, crawling on all fours and licking boots, faces, buns and crotches all with assorted barking, yapping, "tail wagging" and whimpers. You had to be there to believe that scene!

Washington Plaza Hotel employees went about their business with utter nonchalance as these "scenes" were taking place on the premises.

The DC Eagle was packed to the rafters all weekend, and the Centaur MC members and their efficient volunteers worked every event with precision efficiency. The large press corps (including yours truly) was treated extra-special with seats right up front, af-

fording us optimum shots. Seating for the physically challenged was offered as well, along with flawless signing for the hearing impaired.

San Francisco's own Kinsey Sicks made a big impression with their antics, great voices and harmonies, and the disco diva of the year was Martha Wash, who had the joint rocking (alas she was "too tired" to perform an encore).

A boot-black competition was also held, with two males and one female competing in a new twist that entailed votes from judges and weekend package holders.

Paksen Burrell of the Denver Triangle emerged the winner with "Carrie" of Stanton, VA the first runner-up and Eric of Philadelphia the second runner-up. Both IML and IMLs will adopt this new strategy as well.

The emcee for the weekend, Frank Nowicki, once more proved to everyone that he is indeed the premiere master of ceremonies for leather competitions. It is not easy to fill in dead spaces with dates of events, commentary and dialogue while segments were being readied. Frank Nowicki is at the top of his craft and it's difficult to imagine any major or minor leather event without his sterling performance to keep the crowd(s) happy, laughing and interested in the task at hand. Oh how lucky our tribe is to have someone with such impeccable credentials!

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## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Friday, January 19

Exiles of SF present "Safety & Magic" with Cleo DuBois, at the Women's Bldg. (18th at Valencia), with doors open from 1930 to 2000. This one is about play piercings.

### Saturday, January 20

GDI's celebrate their 27th Anniversary at the Eagle tonight from 1900-2200 with admission by club overlay or invitation in hand.

Bears of SF beer/soda bust at the Lone Star from 1500-1900, for only \$7 and raffle tickets. To benefit Positive Resources Center.

In Long Beach, Calif., at Pistons Bar, they're staging the Mr. Long Beach Leather Bear contest.

Boot & Bondage party, the monthly butch boots gathering. Call 364-1820 or email mchester@best.com for location and invite. Emphasis on rubber this time!

### Sunday, January 21

Constantines MC beer/soda bust at the Lone Star Saloon from 1600-2000 for only \$7.

### Wednesday, January 24

The Ring presents "Tantric Masturbation & Prolonged Arousal" at their meeting at 1900 today. For info email: thering@ix.netcom.com

### Thursday, January 25

Mr. February 2002 will be chosen at the Powerhouse at 2100 sharp tonight. Win \$100 and fame. Judges: Lance Gear, Graylin Thornton and Steve Gaynes. This one should be fun!

### Friday, January 26

"Mama's" Breast Cancer dinner/benefit at the Cliff House with shuttle bus provided so that afterward, you can attend:

Mr. Powerhouse Leather 2001 contest at the Powerhouse, at 2200. Judges are Pam Meyer, David Kloss and Nig Shelli. The winner will compete at Mr. SF in March.

Black Out Party at the Russian River Eagle from 2100 to closing. Jake really knows how to throw a sex party.

### Saturday, January 27

Defenders of SF celebrate their 7th anniversary at the SF Eagle from 1900-2200 tonight. Admittance by club overlay or invitation in hand.

In Los Angeles, it's the Mr. Faultline Leather 2001 contest.

In Anchorage, Alaska, Mr. and Ms. Alaska Leather contest at Mad Myrna's. Also choosing Mr. Bear Alaska, Alaska Cub and Mr. Alaska Levi. In Dallas, Mr. Texas Leather Contest is taking place at the Dallas Eagle.



## PORN

# Playing with tools

## Titan Media's 'Jacked Up'

by John F. Karr

It was nearly over for me the second I saw the box cover of Titan Media's *Jacked Up*, where pairs of vice-grip pliers hang off the tits of a tattooed muscle boy. That gave me a spasm, alright. All that was necessary after that to successfully kick off the year in porn was a movie as sensational as its box cover. And, I'm glad to report, *Jacked Up* comes through.

The guys at Titan have told me they make a special effort to cater to the interests of the communities they serve — and kinky's been selling. To judge by this movie's heavy deployment of tools — grease guns lubing the way for screwdriver handles and dildos to slide up butts, 14-inch monkey wrenches dangling ponderously from balls — this movie's going for the Home Depot crowd. (Covering all the bases, Titan also has a juicy film for the Crate and Barrel boys. In their recent *Three Easy Pieces*, a pair of apartment hunters are compelled to make out in the kitchen of one place after inspecting its cabinetry, and that's just so gay: there are few things more arousing than extra cupboard space.) If you like the players to be adults with a couple of notches on their belts, and the action aggressively male with a couple of

nod toward kinky, *Jacked Up*'s got it all: tattoos, tools, ponytails, toys, and a star who is so blithely butch he doesn't even shave his balls.

In a conscious effort to recreate the feel of vintage porn, *Jacked Up* has been modeled after a Gage Brothers movie. In a confined locale that's removed from reality, a select bunch of dudes have rough-house sex. These funky, hairy men look like they belong in greasy coveralls, and are macho without resorting to cigars. A few of them pack some extra muscle, but most are just nasty guys with a natural look. They work in an auto repair shop, although the body work they do is rarely on cars. In this sex garage, the customers don't stand a chance, and get roughly worked over by the surly mechanics. Please sir. When can I bring my car in?

### In the flesh

The employees include Rolio



Getting worked over by surly mechanics in the auto repair shop

Vizarro, a grizzled Hispanic with punishing attitude, and Jack Simmons, whose personal appeal has always escaped me, but who is, nevertheless, at his best here, sternly gruff and gnarly-cocked. But they're aced by the debut of Joe Hix, who is a fantasy in the flesh: the embodiment of Jesus as the Woodstock Nation queer hippy carpenter dude.

Imagine  
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older brother, with the face and ponytailed long hair of a tougher, less feline Sam Shepard, packing a little extra muscle and a man's weighty meat.

In the sensational opening scene, Hix treats the uniquely tattooed Ross Taylor to some stern loving. Taylor's a daddy's boy with a man's five o'clock shadow, and a puppy-like enthusiasm for rough treatment. There's impish perversity behind that boyish grin, and he gleefully asphyxiates himself on Joe's bloated bazooka. His eyes well up as he chokes it down, and I grew a little moist myself. Joe smacks Taylor's cock around, clamps those pliers on his nipples, hangs that wrench off his balls, and then pounds his ass, driving home the absolution of his beautiful masculinity. He's something else. As he sucks Taylor's tautly tied-off cock, I especially loved watching the soft and lush corkscrew curl of his

ponytail swinging between his chin and Taylor's balls.

You'd think the rest of the movie would pale in comparison, but it doesn't. Rolio has a nifty turn with delicious newcomer Bruce Jennings, a junior exec who arrives all Hugo Boss but gets messily bossed out, pissed all over and forced to admit he's a fucking cockwhore ("Hello. My name is Bruce and I'm a fucking cockwhore.") The divine Mr. Hix is featured in several other combinations, so that we can gloat over his fine body and suave technique. Two players in the Men's Room piss toward each other like preening peacocks: the sound of splashing water is such a mating call. And the exciting, wet finale dovetails the activities of two simultaneous quartets. Altogether, *Jacked Up* is rather rousing.

As for *Three Easy Pieces*, it delivers effective threeways in three half-hour sequences. And like Titan's recent *Stuffed*, *Chapters* and *Tag Team*, the movie-makers have the simple good sense to introduce their performers as types, not characters. This releases them from all the trappings of plot so that the guys can just bang each other heartily. Rather than some concocted nonsense, the story here is Sex. I go for that. It makes *Three Easy Pieces* a really good makeout movie — lusty all the time, a little pushy at moments, with a fine assortment of masculine guys. ▼

[www.titanmedia.com](http://www.titanmedia.com)

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

### Bare chests and SMMILEs galore

Earlier in the week (Thursday, Jan. 11), the 2002 Bare Chest Calendar kicked off next year's calendar search with the Mr. January 2002 competition at the Powerhouse. An enthusiastic audience saw six men go for the January 2002 spot: Scott Brogan, Tony Smith, Robert Vaughn, Carl Oliver, Greg Vincent and Steve Mayers.

It was not easy for judges Nick Knight, Bob Miller and Philip Rubin with David Kloss representing the SMMILE board.

During the proceedings, some \$32,000 was presented to this year's beneficiaries (AEF and Positive Resources) by Steve Corrigan

of Miller Brewing and Golden Brands. That was \$7000 more than the 2000 edition. Great applause ensued.

When it was all over, Scott Brogan won the Mr. January 2002 spot and Tony Smith was the first runner-up.

The new officers of SMMILE were also announced. They are: President Ralph Peterson; VP Glennon Sutter; Treasurer: Werner Tillinger; Secretary: Jeff Braff. That's a heavy-duty leather presence on the board, as it was in the beginning, and hopefully as it always will be.

Also, on Sunday, only three men stepped forward to compete for the Mr. Eagle Leather 2001 title at the regular beer bust. Since I was not here, I could not get all the details at my deadline, but the word I got says John Bernal won the title and an absolutely flawless

title vest. He will compete for the Mr. SF Leather 2001 title at the contest on March 9th. By the way, I can tell you that IML Chief Judge Thom Dombkowski will join Mr. SF Leather 2000 Lance Gear on the judging panel. The other judges have yet to be selected.

### Sad news

I'm very sorry to report that Ed Ryder, who was the popular Mid-Atlantic Drummerman 1995 and the second runner-up at International Mr. Drummer that same year, passed away at his home in New York City on Monday morning, January 15. No services were planned at my deadline.

Here on the home front, friends of George Carreras should know that he is in serious and life-threatening condition at SF General Hospital with meningitis. We wish him well. ▼

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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare

by Mark Mardon

Fri

### Art Web

The Web as a monumental work of public art and architecture is something culture critics will long be picking at, probing for insights into how bits and bytes have forever changed human perceptions of reality. Our sights and minds have moved eons from the days when pictorial art consisted of charcoal drawings on cave walls, to be enjoyed by drummers beating out rhythms and naked revelers dancing around a campfire.

Web art is so vastly different than any art preceding it that it gives Web artists a kind of fourth or fifth dimension in which to work — a psychic level, purely illusionary yet powerfully substantial in its effects on human thinking and behavior. The opportunities to master new forms of visualization within this sphere are boundless, so long as electricity lasts.

The art establishment has been slow to wholly embrace Web art, confounded as all of us by the rapid shifts in technological developments and the myriad directions the medium seems to be going at once. At last, however, the establishment has caught up with the masses, according Web art its rightful place in history.

The folks at the **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art**, situated by luck in the pulsing core of Webtopia, perceived the need to make a bold statement on the matter of Web art, and with the help of Internet giant Intel has done so handsomely with **010101: Art in Technological Times**, launched first on the Web at a minute past midnight, 2001, and due to appear in March as an exhibition in the museum's physical space. Linking the virtual with the concrete was the museum's goal, to somehow synthesize two realms of reality. The Web component of the exhibition is both a lure to the museum and an end in its own.

At the 010101 Website you'll find (after much tinkering around to figure out how to navigate the strange architectural interface) some seriously imaginative concepts carried out by five commissioned Web artists: **Mark Napier** (*Feed*); **Entropy8Zuper!** (*Eden Garden 1.0*); **Thomson & Craighead** (*e-poltergeist*); **Erik Adigard** (*Timelocator*); and my personal favorite, **Matthew Ritchie** (*The New Place*).

Ritchie's work grabs me in particular because he employs some narrative, helping me answer questions I never knew I had, all the while engaging me with unfolding images that float onscreen with the delicacy of classic, ornamental Japanese art, evolving into weird organic shapes. You can also visit one of Ritchie's earlier projects in which you select an avatar to guide you to different "earths." This suits me fine, lost as I get on my own in the site, with pleasure.

Thompson & Craighead's *e-poltergeist* takes off on one of the Web's most annoying qualities, getting stuck in a tacky site. Going there is like going to one of those icky porn sites that won't let you close out one window without two others popping up. Pretty soon you have a mess of windows and you just want to throw up your hands and surrender. Apparently that's the point. Trash is trash, except when it's art. ▼

To check out 010101 on the Web, surf 010101.sfmoma.org

### Studio @ Rhino

Director Johari Jabir and a cast of five present the first public reading of renowned poet Marvin K. White's choreopoem "For Colored Boys . . ." a sensuous and funny story about the lives of African American gay men. The piece will have its world premiere in May on Theatre Rhino's Mainstage. With Andre de los Santos Morgan, Marlon Bailey, Cedric Brown, Terrance Wells and Durant Rutledge. Free. 8:30pm. Also on 1/20. The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. Tix/info: 861-5079; www.therhino.org

### Theatre Rhinoceros

Continuing run: Eugene Ionesco's absurdist classic play *Rhinoceros*, directed by Colman Domingo, set in the Mission District of contemporary San Francisco. Bay Area actress Alexis Lexin stars in the traditionally male role of Beranger, a malcontented employee of a not-for-profit organization, whose life is turned upside down when the people around her start turning into Rhinoceroses. Theatre Rhino favorite P.A. Cooley stars as her friend Jean, a budding Rhino. \$20 Fri. & Sat. \$15 Wed., Thu., & Sun (matinees & evenings). Thru Feb. 10. Located at 2926 16th St. (btwn Mission & S. Van Ness). Tix: 861-5079.

### Jon Sims Center

AIRspace artist-in-residence Tara Brandel delivers a workshop performance of "Breath," a dance ritual invoking the element of air as a metaphor of inspiration and change. Drawing from the experiences of contemporary lesbian women, this piece posits a vision of community for the New Millennium. Born in Ireland, Brandel is artistic director of Mna Rua (Gaelic for Red Woman) Dance Productions. She moved to SF in 1999 and has performed at Venue 9, 848 Community Space, CELLspace, Dancers Group Studio, Dance Mission

Theater and other locales. There will be a post-performance discussion with the artist. \$5-\$10 sliding (NO-TAFL0F). 1519 Mission St. (at 11th St.). Info: 554-0402; www.jonsimsctr.org

### Slim's

"Cover to Cover," in which local bands cover songs from other bands, a benefit for Popular Noise Foundation (PNF). Featuring Pansy Division, Victor Krummenacher, Noe Venable, Vegas Di Milo, !Tang, New Dealers, Stunt Monkey, Storm, Kindness, Drizzoleto, Paula Murray Trio and Ryan Kihn (of Greg Kihn Band). PNF is a nonprofit organization with the mission to stop the accelerating disintegration of local music in the San Francisco Bay Area and put in place new programs to preserve and benefit its existence. \$10. 8pm. 333 11th St. (btwn Missouri & Texas at bottom of Potrero Hill). Info: 621-4455; www.populanoise.org

### Red Vic Movie House

"Live Nude Girls Unite," directed by Julia Query and Vicky Funari (2000). Stand-up comedian, lesbian activist and stripper Query teams up with documentarian Funari to tell the story of how strippers at SF's Lusty Lady established the first union strip club. \$6.50 adults. 7:30 & 9:15pm. Also Sat., 1/20 at 2, 3:45, 5:30, 7:30 & 9:15pm. 1727 Haight St. 668-3994.

Sat

### New Conservatory Theatre Center

Opening night: "Personal Instrument," a solo show starring David Hanbury, written by Hanbury and Juliann Rube-

jono, directed by Rubijono, presented by NCTC in association with The Theater Offensive — Boston. A one-man rock musical tracing the journeys of one electric guitar and the fingers that caress it. A queer teenage rocker communes with his straight guitar god; an urban gay professional with a penchant for aural sex takes out an ad to sell his guitar; a road-weary rock troubadour and his guitar-companion explore the sexual and philosophical meaning of Jimi Hendrix's left hand. The show "queers" the music of Hendrix, Led Zeppelin, and Bon Jovi as it rocks the stereotypes of gay identity. \$20 Fri./Sat.; \$17 Wed./Thu. Thru Feb. 10. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). Tix: 861-8972.

### Yerba Buena Center

"Queer Youth Art Exhibition," where LGBTQ artists 25 and under strut their stuff, organized by Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC). Free. 6-9pm.

701 Mission St. (at 3rd St.). Info: 703-6150; www.lyric.org

### KUSF Radio 90.3 FM

The quirkiest, queerest Christian radio broadcast in America: "Pastor Tom Live," produced by Dr. Tom Polcari, who weekly dispenses a droll, half-hour sermon boldly embracing gay sexuality, describing the kinkiest of behaviors as the workings of the Lord. 2pm. Info: www.kusf.org

### Civic Center Plaza

Public protest of the Bush inauguration, organized in part by the International Action Center and endorsed by a broad range of labor, environmental, and civil-rights groups, including queer activists. 12 noon. Grove & Larkin (near Civic Ctr. BART). Info: www.iacenter.org

Sun

### Daddy's Bar

Mark Paladini presents "The Couples Game," a fundraiser to benefit the AIDS Emer-

Members of Ronald K. Brown/Evidence unite high-energy African dance, ballet, hip-hop, and sensuous modern movement at ODC Theater. See Wednesday.

gency Fund. Entertainment, raffle (buy the color of ticket representing the couple you think will get the most points based on questions asked of how well they know each other), and beverage benefit (\$7). Hosted by impersonator Lucy Ricardo and producer Mark Paladini. No cover. 4-8pm. 440 Castro St.

### Lounge of Red

Gay and Lesbian Alumni of Atlantic Coast Conference Schools (U.Va, Duke, UNC, Maryland, Wake Forest, NC State, Georgia Tech, Clemson and Florida State) kick off the new year in grand GLBT "Wahoonia" style. It's a gathering of all SF Serpentine Society members and their friends and allies from all ACC schools. This schmooze fest takes place on the second floor of Lounge of Red, a new restaurant on 18th St. between Castro and Noe, next to the Midnight Sun. 7pm. RSVP: beley@kqed.org

### SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for a visit to Año Nuevo State Reserve and see the elephant seals during mating season. It's a moderate 2 1/3, 3-mile hike, limited to 20 participants. Call (415) 285-3760 to reserve a spot. Meet 9:45am under the big Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

### Noe Valley Ministry

Noe Valley Chamber Music presents "Composers Forum," featuring the music of D'arcy Reynolds, Jay Sydeman, and Lawrence Waite, commissioned to be set to the poetry of local poets. Performers include Laura Decher, soprano, Phil Fath, clarinet, Katrina Wreede, viola, and Victoria Ehrlich, cello. \$12. 4pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 333-9444.

Mon

### James Lick Middle School

"Gay Male Relationships," a semester-long class through City College, examines relationships from multiple perspectives, taught by Greg Merrill. \$44 on-site registration. 6:30-9:30pm. Enrollment also accepted Jan. 29 & Feb. 5. 1220 Noe St. (at 25th). Info: Greg Merrill at (510) 823-3379.



Twisted music duo Bitch & Animal sing "Pussy Manifesto" and other womyn songs at Café Du Nord. See Monday.



## Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

San Francisco Contemporary Music Players perform "Music of Jonathan Harvey," presenting three U.S. premieres of works by one of Europe's most venerated composers: Lotuses (flute quartet), Vers (solo piano featuring Thomas Schultz), and *Smiling Immortal*, a monumental piece based on the story of the goddess Aphrodite and scored for a grand ensemble of 11 players plus electronics. Also featuring trumpeter Charles Metzger interacting with computer-delayed versions of his own performance in *Ricercare una melodia*; plus *Mortuos plango, vivos voco*, in which the composer digitally

merges his young son's voice with the great tenor bell of Winchester Cathedral. \$18 (\$14 seniors; \$7 students). 8pm (pre-concert talk with Harvey at 7pm). 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St.). Tix: 978-ARTS.

## Piaf's Restaurant & Cabaret

QComedy.com presents "Gay Comedy Showcase at Piaf's," this week hosted by visiting LA comic Cheril Vendetti. With Janis Lipton, Mary C. Matthews, Annette Stone, John Doyle, Nancy Gauguier, Bridget Schwartz and more. \$5. 8pm. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). Info: 41-5610.

## Café Du Nord

Twisted-chick duo Bitch and Animal, here from NYC, do their hoedown funk, tribal-bitty rock thing, with Bitch on electric fiddle and bass and Animal on African drums and ukulele, and both with mouths like sailors. Their tunes include "Pussy Manifesto," "Best Cock on the Block," and "Drag King Bar." \$5. 10pm. 2170 Market St. Info: 861-5016.

## Tye 23

### Venue 9

Women's Work presents a



Every gay boy's fantasy — to be a rock star — is explored by David Hanbury in *Personal Instrument* at NCTC. See Saturday.



Bill Smartt performs *Aunt Jack: Extraordinary Stories by an Ordinary Woman*, in the Studio @ Rhino. See Thursday.

showcase of new work by five artists: Elizabeth Boubion & Friends (movement, storytelling and song); Evie Ladin & Motor (rhythm dances); Shari McCoy (solo theater); Evangel King (dance); and Brittany Brown (multimedia solo dance). \$8-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 252 9th St. Tix/info: 289-2000; www.ftloose.org

## Theatre Rhinoceros

"Make It So" Productions presents "Viva Variety XIV," the return of the popular variety show hosted by Steve Murray, tonight benefitting the Marin AIDS Project. Featuring tap dancer Matthew Martin as Ann Miller, comedienne Janis Lipton, "Salut Matelot" singing the music of Edith Piaf, Trauma Flintstone, Mark Sargent as Ethel Merman, singer/songwriter Garrin Benfield, "Goldie" fiction winner and spoken-word artist Michelle Tea, country musicians Doug Stevens and the Outband, performance artist and "I Love Lezzie" co-founder Max Kincora, and singer/songwriter Katherine Peck. \$20. 8pm. 2926 16th St. (at South Van Ness). Reservations: 863-0741, ext.

2.

## Plush Room

Jazz singer Paula West (Restless), acclaimed for her smoky, classic stylings of old standards as well as current jazz numbers, returns for a ten-week engagement, as always accompanied by pianist and arranger Ken Muir and bassist Bill Douglass. She's the real thing, on a par with her predecessors, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald and Mel Tormé. \$20 (\$25 Fri. & Sat.). 8pm (8pm & 10:30pm Sat.; 5pm Sun.). Thru April 1. York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. Tix: 885-2800.

## Wed 24

### The Café

Celebrate with the Stop AIDS Project as it distributes its 3-millionth condom. The event acknowledges the role bars, clubs, restaurants and other venues have played in HIV prevention. "Condoms Now" annually distributes more than 900,000 free condoms. Expect a crowd of local celebs. Free. 5-6pm. 2367 Market St.

## ODC Theater

New York-based dance company Ronald K. Brown/Evidence debut in California with Brown's high-energy choreography merging African dance, ballet, hip-hop and sensuous modern dance movement. Implicit and explicit narratives, often addressing social and cultural themes, are folded into the mix. On the bill are excerpts from "Incidents" and "Better Days" and the full 21-minute version of "Upside Down," all created in 1998. \$20. 8pm. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix/info: 863-9834; www.ticketweb.com; www.odcdance.org

## Ibu

### Studio @ Rhino

Bill Smartt performs "Aunt Jack: Extraordinary Stories by an Ordinary Woman," stories transcribed and edited by Smartt from audio tapes recorded by his late Aunt Jack, whose documented experiences as a performer, singer and storyteller from rural Tennessee describe life in the Deep South during the

early 20th century, her work overseas in the Red Cross "Clubmobile" during WWII, and her friendship with Grand Ole Opry performer Minnie Pearl. Directed by Laurel Hunter. \$12. 8:30pm. Also on Jan. 26/27 and Feb. 1, 2 & 3. Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. (at South Van Ness). Tix/info: 861-5079; www.theatrhino.org

## A Different Light Bookstore

Reading and book signing with Editor Richard Labonte and contributors to *Best Gay Erotica 2001* (Cleis Press), including Jaime Cortez, Doug Harrison, Eddie Moreno, Marshall Moore, Ian Phillips, Thomas P. Roche, Sandip Roy, and Simon Sheppard. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

## Intersection for the Arts

Choreographer Joe Goode premieres "Problematic People," a new segment of the *Side Effects Series*. In these short works, Goode revisits his *Floaty Girl* from the dance/play *Hapless*, and also previews sections of his latest work, *What The Body Knows*, an exploration of the intuitions and certainties that come to us through the physical body, often surprising and superseding our rational minds. Featuring Joe Goode Performance Group members Goode, Marit Brook-Kothlow, Felipe Barrueto-Cabello, Elizabeth Burritt, Marc Morozumi and Jennifer Wright Cook, with original compositions by Beth Custer. \$9-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Also on Jan. 26 & 27. 446 Valencia St. (btwn 15th & 16th sts.). 626-3311.

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## PARTING GLANCES

**18th & Castro Shirtless Dancer Oct 31**  
You were on stop booth with no shirt, dancing. It was Castro Halloween. I screamed at you. I wore a devil shirt. Interested? 72680

**Met At Powerhouse!**  
You, blond, 23, musician, DJ. Dot-com me, 53, Provincetown, Howard Johnson's. Let's create magic. 72681

**The Cafe, Sat Nov. 25**  
You: cute smile blue shirt, dark hair goatee, pool table upper bar. Me: blk hair, blk goatee dk red sweater w/stripes. Would like to see you again, call me. 72699

**Fifth & Sixth Fused**  
Maybe more in common. Three of us in your Miata from Power Exchange to my house. Wanted you to stay. 72700

**UCBerkeleyPerimeterBus 12/7/5p**  
Our stop Bart. Me: jeans, grey coat guy with friend in back. Your grey sweater, cargo pants guy. Our eyes met. You smiled as you left the bus and I smiled. 72701

**White Vespa Boy, One Year Ago**  
Eastbound on 18th, late afternoon 12/21/99. Me: leather jacket, Honda, spaced when you pulled over despite your sparkling fuck-me stare. Call if this isn't too bizarre (or bizarre enough). 72702

**Vincent-Thu 11/30 Daddys + Detour**  
We talked about movies and I enjoyed kissing you. You are very cute. I would still like to watch "Less Than Zero", with you, maybe more kissing too! Pls call. Eric. 72703

**SFO Open House Lufthansa**  
You busy stamping passports. Me with friend and not able to say hello. Too late to get my stamp? How about coffee or dinner? 72724

**David, Nurse, Live By Ocn Bch**  
We went out a few years ago. Saw you at Stacey's Books last month-wanted to say hi, but didn't know how to start; can we have coffee? Ken. 72725

**Just Back From New Zealand**  
11/27 we sat next to each other on the plane from LA to SF. Would like to talk to you again. 72726

**Eye Contact, "The Bar"**  
You Italian-Latin we made eye contact at. "The Bar", 12/9 said hi when I saw you walking on Castro w/my roommate. Dinner? 72727

**12/25 Evening Air-Bart-Embarcadero**  
We sat opposite each other. You-green army pants/Banana Republic sweatshirt. Me- black jeans/jacket. Noticed your growling bubble. Want to do something about it? Call! 72743

**Castro Starbucks 12/3**  
Me, black shirt, goatee, book; You, blue shirt, dark hair, book. My title: "Too shy to talk." Yours? Can we compare notes? 72744

**New Years At Club Universe**  
Back room. You, cute boy in black. Me, feather mask, confetti thrower dancing with friend. Gave you string necklace and hug. Gotta have you! 72764

**Supershuttle To SFO, Fri 12/22**  
10:30am, we shared the seat behind the driver. You were going to NY. I was going to Chicago. A woman talked about disadvantaged kids in LA. Want to meet for coffee? 72765

**"Jano," Sweet Good Boy, I Desire**  
Fluvio, please talk Jano into calling again or call yourself & tell me he is safe & in love with someone else. Steve, bear, Dolores SFG. I am wounded by his kisses. 72785

**"Anja," Mr NL & Indra, The Cafe Jan 2**  
The sexy cat/computer lady and Mister Gorgeous waited by Swedish, ponytailed sailor, girlie. Unfortunately, I couldn't find my way back again... Do get in touch again! 72784

**New Years Eve @ Midnight Sun**  
You: Michael, 37, cute, newly arrival from San Diego, living in San Mateo. Genuine smart ass! Me: the tall handsome, fun, debonair guy you should have gone home with. Call. 72787

**Gap, Flood Building 1/7/01**  
We talked at the check out. Gap.com athletic socks-platinum amex- Costco. I've seen you before- I would enjoy knowing you more. Please call. 72786

Safe sex is hot sex! SAFE

**Sean- Saturday Night 12/30 Stud**  
We met outside Sugar and each thought we were familiar. I looked for you on the dance floor in hopes to continue our conversation. Any chance we still can? R. 72767

**Barnes & Noble 12/30**  
You-wearing backpack. I smiled at you a few times and all the way down the escalator. Want to meet for tea/coffee? 72766

**Thurs 12/21 18+ Church 3pm**  
You cute Latino. Me tall blonde Berkeley student. We tried but 3rd party interrupted. Let's try again. You call the shots... 72762

**Leather Buddies-Wed. 12/27**  
You: Short Asian, medium build, black leather vest. Me: White, bare bottomed, slim & smooth - serviced you. Talked, but no phone # asked, let's meet elsewhere. 72763

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**Not Looking For A 10**  
Not even a 7. What I am looking for is an average guy 30 & 40? Oriental? White? This 48yr. W/M in S.J. would like to meet you. Let's do some dating and if it works out, start a long term relationship. You must be willing to relocate. 72762

**HIV+ Black Male Or Latino**  
Wanted by HIV+ blond/blue 5'10", 150lbs versatile bottom. 44yrs genuinely honest and loving, you be the same, I live in Paradise near Chico, am willing to travel, please call me. 72763

**Seeking Other Hardbodies**  
5'9 145 38c 29" w/wash brd. abs smooth, tan, handsome, 47y.o. seeks same for ltr. Sex, & wrk out. 72764

**European GWM**  
29, 5'10", 165 seeking committed, honest, sensitive, intellectual W/M. 27-35 for monogamous ltr. No gym, dotcom, feminine types. Serious only! 72765

**Bruiser Bottom Wanted**  
Older but hung topman wants a husky bottom guy flat on his back, legs in the air, ready for a raw pounding. Moustache/ but no other facial hair/a turn-on. 72766

**Monogamous Muscular Man**  
Seeks GM for dating in S.F. I'm Asian, young 50, 5'7", 150#, HIV-neg., into working out, body worship/lit play. NS, ND, no anal. 72767

**Looking For Real Nice Fun Mate**  
Handsome, youngish, HIV- 35 GWM/ half Colombian. Fun, cuddly, spontaneous sagittarian. Slim, drk brn. You: late 20's-30's, handsome, light eyes, Northern Europeanish, tall, lanky, gentlemanly, monogamous. No heavy drugs. 72768

**Seeking Asian Boyfriend**  
Muscular GWM 43, sensitive, in very good shape is wishing to date a smooth, in-shape Asian 25-50. No games or B.S. Please only serious minded, long term. 72769

**Top Fuckbuddy Wanted**  
GWM, HIV+, 36yrs, bottom, seeks HIV+. Hot top for erotic hot safe sex. Me, br, hzl, 6'1", love br, br, 50's but not required. 72769

**"Rich Gold Gym Dude!"**  
You have come over to my apartment on Parker Avenue. Somehow, I didn't have chance to talk to you. I would like to meet you again. Please call. P.S. would you mind collecting my English? 72704

**Lonely? Looking For A Friend?**  
Shy GWM, 57, 5'10", 165# in San Francisco looking for companionship with another man who may or may not have the same problem getting to know other people. 72705

**SF 69er Sought**  
Me: GWM 49 5'9" lean athletic (runner, hiker) 6'cut HIV- bearded bald witty friendly enjoys quiet. Seeks: similar clean, low-key younger man for mutual oral sex. 72706

**Quality Asian-American, 34, 5'8"**  
Slim, gym-toned, independent, stable, down to earth. Interests include gardening, travel, reading, learning. Seeking friendship and possible ltr. Prefer 28-40. Race unimportant. Sincere only please. 72707

**Easteuro Man Seeking Thai Man**  
In shape, 38 years, 5'8", about 164# Eastern European man seeking Thai man about my age (30-40). 72728

**Loved To Be Fucked**  
By Asian and Latino men on LTR. I'm 6'2", GWM 165lbs. You won't be disappointed. We can have sex many times in the future. Yours. 72729

**HIV+ Black Men Or Latino**  
Wanted by HIV+ blond/blue 5'10", 150lbs versatile bottom. 44yrs genuinely honest and loving, you be the same, I live in Paradise near Chico, am willing to travel, please call me. 72730

**Hi, My Name Is Ralph J. Torres**  
I am looking for someone between 18-24 years old. I am a bi-male. I am a top looking for a bottom that love sex. 72731

**I Know You're Out There!**  
Handsome, healthy, HIV-, successful, 40-something, muscular guy, 5'10", 165lbs, who enjoys life with comic intensity. Looking for someone my age or younger for passionate relationship. 72732

**Stocky WM, 48 Seeks BM Within SF, Bay Area.**  
Professional home-loving guy with wide interests seeks same. HIV- 5'7", 220lbs. No substance abusers please. 72733

**Class Act 4 Same**  
G1 professional, 50s, tall and shaved, bright, humorous and playful, enjoys cooking, theatre and the gault, sexually versatile, seeks man of quality for dating and ltr. Life is to share. 72734

**Younger Poz Bottom Sought**  
Black male; 5'10", 185, 43, dark, smooth, muscular, masculine. 32" waist, 44" chest, 43, nice body, quiet, mature man, seeks muscular poz bottom, 35 and under, for intimacy, warmth, closeness. 72745

**Hot!, Hot!, In Antioch**  
I will close the curtains, light a couple of candles as you sit on the bed showing me your big dick. I will model around showing you my fine clean ass as we enjoy a cocktail, smoke, music. I am 38yr. old, horny Frenchman, handsome. You may be average but have a hot cock. 72746

**Hi My Name Is Ralph**  
I am looking for a girlfriend between 18-24. I am 40years old that love the Lord Jesus Christ in my life and, I have AIDS. 72747

**SR GWM Seeks M.O.C.**  
GWM in S.F. sincere fit bearded, 67, 5'9", 155# HIV neg. N/D ISO mature masculine Black, Latino, over 45 for erotic play, J/O. 72768

**Wanted: Cuddly SF Bear/Cub-GWM**  
30-50, facial/body hair, versatile: share adventures, art, architecture, massage with GWM, 42, 6'-3", hairy/beard, versatile, leather, professional. No smoke/drugs. 72769

**Top Fuckbuddy Wanted**  
GWM, HIV+ 37yrs, bottom, seeks HIV+ hot top for hot erotic safe sex. Me: br, hzl, 6'1", love br, br, 50's but not required. No games apply. 72770

**Diaper Boy ISO A Daddy**  
LTR minded, only please. I am 38yo 5'11", 195 brown hr hzl/eyes looking for a dad that is strict but loving heavy A+ diaper spanking fun. 72771

**Kabuki Theater 12/31 3:30pm**  
Me: Asian w/baseball cap says "Canada". You: White w/glasses @ balcony. You gave me big smiles. I was way too shy to respond to you. Wish to meet you. 72772

**Santa Rosa Area Or SF On Wknds**  
Seeking other hardbodies. I'm 47, handsome, smooth 39" c, 29" w, w/abs 5'9", 145#, sincere spiritual, strong, & loving, enjoy hot tub, massage & hot sex. 72773

**Dominant Masculine WM**  
Goodlooking man with hard bod, 5-10, 165, 40ish professional seeks young, HIV- cleancut, 18-39 sub-boys for fun, possible LTR. 72774

**"I'm A Great Catch!!!"**  
WM, late thirties, brown hair, blue/green eyes, 6'1", 185lbs, clean-shaven, gym going, academic, HIV-, nice, warm, stable, communicative, non-superficial, engaging, humorous. You: 25-45, college educated, professional, dark hair and eyes. 72788

**Best Buds**  
Masculine Italian topman ISO another masculine buddy to "hang" with. Drinks, dinner, movies, clubs, travel (vacations) etc. Looks, age, race, top or bottom not important. Masculine men only!! 72789

**Live In Relationship E. Bay**  
58yr. old Germanic with large swanz and house seeks companionship in kitchen and bedroom. Be HIV+ healthy, bottom with talent on the computer and a warm casserole. 72790

**Gentle Soul Seeks Same**  
GWM, 44, balanced, honest, communicative, playful, contemplative, settled yet adventuresome, enjoy film, reading, travel, gardening. Prefer N/S, N/D, light drinker, HIV-neg. Want sensual, romantic type for dating. LTR oriented. 72791

**Looking For Companionship**  
Gay Asian 65yrs 5-9 150lb need close contact with trim, goodlooking man under 40 for friendship, travel conversation and love. 72792

**Skg Tall Husky Hairly Top**  
You: Over 6' husky to stocky, hairy a plus. Me: balding salt & pepper, 5'9", avg build, 40's skg versatile play partner. 72793

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

**Free Massage**  
From bottom daddy, GWM, 42, 6', 165lbs, Ital/Germ, brown/hazel, beard given to lean top br 18-35. Dark hair and/or facial hair a plus. 72691

**East Bay Mature Academic**  
Appreciative of nude male body seeks gay, straight, bi-exhibitionist or curious, 25-50, for private encounters his peaceful private home. 72692

**Heavyset Men**  
WLM 45, 160lbs, moderately hry. I'm attracted to husky/huge men who enjoy lots of hugging, kissing & oral action. Facial hair A+. Not into gay lifestyle. 72693

**GAM 30's Back In Town**  
Looking for GWM 30-43 for hot times. If interested please call. 72694

**Bottom Need's F.F**  
Ball's need S/M, be tormented, ass needs spanking and exploring. I am clean HIV- bl WM 5'2", 120 shaved, and a experienced cocksucker, stay over nite. Sacramento, aroma/herbs L/A ok. 72708

**Sexy Older (54-67) For Cute 28**  
East Bay, athletic, slim, trim, 6', 160# with satin smooth skin and bubble buns youngest 28 seeks naughty older men. Younger Latinos welcome. 72709

**Into Rimming?**  
Have a lover? seeking a rimming buddy for mutual ass eating. Me: GWM, 53yrs, 5'8", 175#. You: GWM and discreet. Clean, no scat, your place in SF only. HIV+. 72710

**A Rubbery Adventure**  
Attractive blonde, mid 40's, HIV positive, seeks similar W/male to explore the rubber scene. I've got lots of leather-and rubber gear. You should too. East Bay/S.F. 72711

**Dry Face Needs Hot Cum Bath**  
Masculine WM 52 seeking senior citizens. Let me get between your legs and jerk off your cock directing your cum all over my face. 72712

**I'm Lost In Orlando!**  
Formerly known as "Pete" in the window on Sanchez Street, I have relocated to Orlando. If you're planning to visit, leave me a message. I'll give you what you need! 72713

**Kick Back And Enjoy**  
Free erotic massage and/or oral service by muscular, handsome, long-haired GWM. Trim or in shape a must, longhair or alternative types A+. I'm a nice guy. UB2. 72735

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**Dominant Male, 39 Seeking**  
Part time house slave. Must be detail oriented & eager to please. Age & looks not important. ☎ 72714

**Big, Husky, Chubby, Fat**  
GBM, 47yo, 5'11", 250lbs, big chest, hung seeks big, fat, & chubby men for uninhibited sex. You must be my size or bigger. Discretion a must. ☎ 72715

**Big Dick Top Seeks Hot Bottom**  
GWM, 45, 6'3", 185 lb, grn with big fat dick looking for cute guys who like a big cock up their butt. ☎ 72716

**Handsome Slim Dad, 54, Holds U**  
And carresses you. You blow me. I put it in you if you want it. Masturbate you & kiss you. Young, slim only. ☎ 72717

**Flood Bldg Buddy Wanted**  
Professional GWM, working in Flood Building, is looking for a building buddy for AM coffee, drinks after work, sex over lunch (not necessarily in that order). ☎ 72718

**I Like Sensual Bondage**  
Lean, athletic, friendly guy, 45, seeks partner for sensual bondage, flogging, role playing. Reciprocity if desired. ☎ 72736

**FF Top Want FF Bottom**  
SWM 50's HIV- looking for FFB GWM HIV- for pleasure and fun- aroma-herb ok. ☎ 72737

**Athletic, Masculine, Witty, Asian,**  
53, 5'8", 155, seeks similar clean-shaven, lean/muscular, in-shape WM for adventurous companion and fun times. ☎ 72738

**BI Black Man**  
I am 46 year old, non smoker or drug. I need someone, any race with big 8+ men for long ltr. ☎ 72739

**Attractive, Smooth, Athletic Asian**  
Guy wants to receive long firm, erotic, full body, head to toe oil massages from experienced or licensed masseurs. I enjoy having my chest, butt, legs, cock, balls, etc. massaged. I also enjoy bondage; having my hands and feet tied up while massaged, etc. ☎ 72740

**Have You Read...**  
Conjuring The Flesh or Apprenticed To Pleasure by Brandon Fox, "cool scene", isn't it? Group of images forming. Learn to touch the kei by understanding pleasure. Initiates wanted, call Ander to meet. ☎ 72748

**East Bay**  
Appreciative, mature Academic male seeks Gay, Straight, BI, exhibitionist or curious, 25-50 for private encounters at his home. ☎ 72749

**Mine's Big**  
Looking for someone who can take it. Looking for someone who can handle it. Looking for someone who can go all night long. Search me, 24/7. Raging. ☎ 72750

**Oakland Guy**  
36, shaved cock and balls, HIV+, seeks other positive guys for mutual oral and J/O. Prefer out cocks and shaved. Let's have some fun. ☎ 72751

**Great Downtown Head**  
GWM 50, not gym toned, gives excellent head to hung men over 8" any age, race. I am 6', 188lbs, brn, handsome and love oral sex. ☎ 72753

**I Need A Slow Hand**  
Boyish Asian seeks the strong hands of a smooth gym toned GM or AM to massage my full body. Enjoy hot tubing too. ☎ 72754

**Seeking A Very Well Hung Stud**  
Nice-looking White bottom, seeking nice looking White or Latino top 18-40 with nice looking body, huge thick dick to get together to fuck my tight hot asshole good. ☎ 72756

**HelpMeFromThisTorturesExdesire**  
Oversized x-tra smooth GAM 37, 220, 5'8" seeks open minded men 18-45 for ongoing sex action only. Your place weekdays. Discretion guaranteed. No drugs. Serious only. ☎ 72779

**GWM Ass For Asian Cock To Fuck**  
Need Asian tops to fuck my asshole while I'm on my belly. Me: Caucasian, mature, hairy, stocky, big ass. You: slender, smooth, HIV- Asian man who likes to fuck ass. ☎ 72796

**Hot Bottoms Wanted**  
By White top 56yrs old 6' 160lbs. brn/brn glasses big 9" cut cock wants to fuck young bottoms ages 18-39. Be hot & smooth bodied. ☎ 72757

**Ties And Toes All Go's**  
I have a heart for all that blows. I'm a 5'6" bottom and like all. Please give it to me. ☎ 72758

**2001 Is For Great Sex! ISO Top**  
For serious oral servicing. I'm 48, S&P, hairy chest, tall and lean with long-distance lover. UB clean, in-shape take control guy up for some discrete fun. ☎ 72759

**Naked On Your Knees**  
Are you masculine and submissive with a tight trim body from 20 to 44? Would you like to take orders for some role playing fun with a trim dominant WM 43? ☎ 72755

**Tit Play Zaps My Dick & Brains**  
Yours too? Let's do each other's easy and rough tit totally crazed. Must: hairy, inshape, 40+, tall, GWM, SF. ☎ 72760

**I Love My Dad/ 5'9" 200lbs 42**  
GWM seeks very hairy daddy types 40-60 for romance and fun. Very oral, affectionate & cute. Must have fun & outgoing personality. ☎ 72761

**Mature Masculine Submissive**  
Seeks dominant top 40+ for erotic BD/SM play. Sub is intelligent, experienced, imaginative. ☎ 72752

**Hairless Bubblebutt Bottom**  
Wanted by WM 48, 6' 175 gym toned with nice dick & ass top HIV+. Be in shape. I am Asian, Black rimmers A+++. ☎ 72755

**Palo Alto Asian Male 44 5'11"**  
190 blk-brn likes to suck cock that doesn't get rock hard for me to deep throat. Prefer Peninsula area and between 3pm to 10pm your place. ☎ 72766

**South Bay**  
58, 1k younger, 6' 212, shavedhead & body, uninhibited, sub. bottom seeks dom. top(s) to play with, 50-70, cauc. sincere, exper. your place. ☎ 72777

**Straight**  
Looking for hot straight cocks to suck on by two deep-throat experts. Good-looking and Latin are a plus. ☎ 72778

**Hairy Blond Or Red Head Bottom**  
Is what I'm looking for. I'm 38 6' 200lb. A hairy Italian with 8 inches. Call if you love hot oral & anal action. ☎ 72794

**Filipino Top Wanted**  
GBM 40 is seeking a Filipino top for fun. Any age, looks not important. (Please call). ☎ 72795

**Young European Boy**  
This very cute submissive boy from Europe is ready to be trained by you or your friends in their 20's or 30's only. Total obedience is guaranteed. ☎ 72797

**Oral Service**  
GWM, 45 br/bl, 5'10", 160, healthy loves to give oral service to guys my age or older. Muscular, hairy A+. Oakland/ SF. ☎ 72798

**Sonoma County Resident**  
45yrs old Latino gay male. I love nice hard dick to suck, fuck. I have nice hot, wet ass for you. ☎ 72799

**Handsome Top Seeks Bottoms**  
Hey guys, I am blond, 38, hung 8 inches uncult, in-shape, 5'8", 160 and fun. You are in-shape, bottom and very friendly. Let's play now. ☎ 72800

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**Hungry Fist Seek Pig Hole**  
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**Turtleneck Sweaters**  
Winter's almost here and it's my time of year. Nothing gets me off more than guys with facial hair in ribbed turtlenecks. Looking for others who share this fetish. ☎ 72721

**Can You Provide?**  
GWM 40, 175, 6'1", VGL ISO young raunch top to use & abuse me. Verbal & uncult A+. In sweat, snot, cum, WS, & a ripe hole to worship. River location. ☎ 72723

**Spanking/Discipline**  
I am a strict, no-nonsense dad type who administers real discipline/punishment welcome. Must meet at your place. ☎ 72741

**Mutual Spanking...**  
Hard, bare-hand slapping & strapping partner wanted. 50's man 5-7, 165. We leave marks. ☎ 72720

**New Year Wish List**  
WM seeks senior citizen with senior friends who can put together a J/O party with my face on receiving end of shot after shot of hot cum. ☎ 72742

**Seeking Serious Workout Buddy**  
I'm a 46yr old stocky 190# serious nip-pig with huge erect nipples. Brn/brn, salt & pepper, tats & piercings, smoker ISO super masc. muscular dominant nip pig "daddy" for serious wk outs with growth in mind: Please call- smoker +++. ☎ 72780

**Ski Mask Bandit**  
White punk, 28, wears ski masks, derby jackets, swallows big cocks. Cholos, blue collars, kinky tops, boot stompers only. ☎ 72781

**Asshole Rimmer Wanted By WM**  
47, 6', 170 exc shape HIV+. You must be bottom. Prefer Black, Asian HIV+. ☎ 72722

**Seeking Serious Nipple WkOut Buddy**  
46yr old stocky 190# bear brn, nip-pig with huge erect nips. Brn/brn, tats, piercings, salt & pepper goatee, smoker, ISO super masc. dominant nip-pig "bear daddy" for serious nip wkout sessions with growth in mind. Smoker A++ Please call. ☎ 72802

**Big Bro With Firm Hand**  
Me: 36yo big bro type, 5'11", 185, warm, honest, skilled. You: 18-40 yo in reasonable shape who needs to be spanked. Genuine, no-nonsense discipline to erotic play. ☎ 72782

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# Loose women, tight fiction

Emma Donoghue's historical novel 'Slammerkin'

by Deborah Peifer

Emma Donoghue is an historian, editor and novelist of extraordinary skill. In her latest book, *Slammerkin* (Vivago), she combines her talent for research with her gifts for fiction to create an historical novel that is absolutely compelling, utterly engrossing. The real difficulty, in fact, with reading so astonishing a novel is that I am now completely spoiled for lesser fiction. *Slammerkin*, a word which means a loose dress or a loose woman, is astonishingly rich, written with elegance and style, containing neither an extraneous syllable nor a gratuitous piece of research. Be-

ginning with the meager evidence of a real woman who was condemned for murder in 1763, Donoghue creates a completely believable world, and peoples it with vividly authentic characters.

Mary Saunders lives with her mother and stepfather in the most abject poverty, where she "owned nothing with color in it, and consequently was troubled by cravings."

When the 13-year-old Mary becomes pregnant after a brutal rape, her family throws her out on the street, and she learns quickly that the only job in London for a young girl with no skills is prostitution. Thanks to her friend, Doll, Mary learns to work the streets, but when she earns the enmity of the man who sliced Doll's face, she has no choice to flee to Monmouth, hoping that her mother's girlhood friend will offer

takes. Her characters notice what's going on, and comment on what they see. When Mary's new mistress tells her daughter a story about a good servant, for example, Mary is less than enthralled. She hates stories "about virtuous servants whose rewards awaited them in the Hereafter."

They made the Mighty Maker sound like the kind of master who was always years in arrears on the wages."

We learn that among the desperately poor, bedtime comes with the darkness because there is no spare money for candles or fire. And how do we know this? Because Mary's Monmouth employers, aching to be seen as better than those around them, "ate supper at seven in the little parlour, very hungry but proud to have waited until such a genteel hour." Mary

became a servant because one long-ago night she decided to keep her infant in her bed, instead of in a cradle where he might freeze to death. Nance's husband came home drunk, and in his stupor, rolled over on the baby, and suffocated him. "The thing was, though, that baby had been Nance Ash's only chance. Without her knowledge, on

that one long night all the hope was pressed out of her life. The next day her tiny boy was put in a coffin no bigger than a hatbox, and her husband, blind with gin, called her terrible names and stumbled out into the lane. After three days she knew he was never coming back, no matter how long she waited."

Reduced to beggary, Nance finds work for the breasts still filled with her son's milk. Forced into service, she becomes religious, bitter, cold. "But when the moonlight came in the shutters, on nights like this one, Nance Ash couldn't help thinking of how she'd had her single chance and lost it as easy as a leaf might be blown from a tree, simply because she'd slept sound one night seventeen years ago this January, dreaming of God alone knew what. She'd never slept right through a night since. She just wished, now, she could remember what she'd been dreaming of, all those years ago: what was it that had been so sweet she hadn't wanted to wake?"

*Slammerkin* will be published by Harcourt in the US in June, Donoghue told me via e-mail, but

if you can't wait, and I certainly couldn't, you can order it from Hammicks Bookshops Limited, at [www.thebookplace.com](http://www.thebookplace.com). That's what I did, and the total cost, including shipping, was a mere \$28.83, a bargain indeed.

## Events, literary and other

Editor Richard Labonté and contributors Jaime Cortez, Doug Harrison, Eddie Moreno, Marshall Moore, Ian Philips, Thomas P. Roche, Sandip Roy, and Simon Sheppard read from *Best Gay Erotica 2001* (Cleis Press) on Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m. at A Different Light Bookstore.

Dust off your Sondheim for a special sing-along screening of *Gypsy*, with the incomparable Rosalind Russell as Mama Rose, at the main library, January 21. The film runs from 1-3:30 p.m., followed by a costume contest, where, I'm certain, "you'll have a real good time, yes sir." ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a literary nature, send them to DeborahPeifer@msn.com, or via snail mail to the B.A.R.



## Book Report

**Slammerkin, a word which means a loose dress or a loose woman, is astonishingly rich, written with elegance and style, containing no extraneous syllable.**

her assistance. Mary's past, however, cannot be left behind despite her hopes, and she learns that being a servant is as brutalizing as being a prostitute. Poverty, class and despair are the enemies, regardless of occupation.

Donoghue has a larger project in *Slammerkin* than plot, although the plot is always compelling. She enables her readers to experience, through the lives of these remarkable characters, what it might have been like to try to survive in a world with little tolerance for mis-

learns that "light was a clear badge of rank." What is most impressive in this novel is that, despite what must have been years of research and thousands of notes, Donoghue never includes any piece of information that is not vital for her characters to know.

And what characters they are. Let me offer one example of Donoghue's skill at characterization, an example that also serves to illustrate her exquisite use of language. Nance Ash is the wet nurse in the Monmouth household. She

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## FILM

Gustav Peter Wöhler in Doris Dorrie's *Enlightenment Guaranteed*

## Berlin &amp; Beyond

## Arts cover

bility. Watch for a brief lesbian flirtation with Garbo's alleged lover Mercedes Di Acosta. (Thurs., 1/25)

## Early diva

Another film that recalls the European-American cultural exchange of decades past is Lubitsch's *Madame Dubarry* (1921), which gives diva fans unsatisfied with *Marlene* another shot at one of their gals. Dubarry is played by a pre-Dietrich diva, the glamorous Pola Negri. This expensive film features some of the most elaborate sets of the era, with Paris meticulously recreated. It was a breakthrough film in putting German cinema on the world map, and can be appreciated anew at this screening in a newly restored print with an original score, played live by Dennis James. (Tues., 1/23)

Far from the realm of camp and ancient movie versions of history are several films that explore the New Europe, with its not always harmonious multicultural mix. In *Die Politisin* (*The Policewoman*), director Andreas Dresen takes a page from the infamous Dogme book, using grainy photography, natural lighting, and quasi-verite acting for this story of a woman who can't reconcile her giving personality with life as a cop in one of Germany's poorest districts, Rostock. Vast high-rises and grimy streets form a suitably grim backdrop to this consistently fascinating, if sometimes too soap-operaish, film. Best of all are some very unsettling tableaux, which attain the documentary look the film strives for: impoverished Russians having a party with one bottle of vodka; a senile old woman twirling mindlessly in the foyer of a retirement home; a homeless drunk beaten for pissing on a window. (Wed., 1/24)

*Die Fremde* (*The Stranger*) explores some of the same terrain in a different but equally effective way. The title is all-encompassing; all of the characters, even the ones who know each other, are strangers in the film's world. Mer-

cedes, a Mexican woman, and her boyfriend Rainer, a German junkie, arrive in Vienna with a treasure they expect to make them rich: a kilo of pure cocaine. But there's a problem; all the dealers have been locked up, and their connection is lost. This casts them into a netherworld of shadowy Russian mafia, duplicitous German disco owners, and various thugs and miscreants. Director Goetz Spielmann skillfully evokes a Vienna far from the clichés of cobblestone streets and thatched homes that occupy the popular imagination. The city is a nightmare of displacement, with most of the scenes shot at night or in dark apartments, appropriate backgrounds for the loose connections and constant threats of betrayal that mark these characters' lives. (Mon., 1/22)

## Monks amok

On a sunnier note, director, writer, and illustrator Doris Dorrie has been making features since 1983's *Mitten Ins Herz* (*Straight Through the Heart*). That film and several others, including her most recent, opening night's *Erleuchtung Garantiert* (*Enlightenment Guaranteed*), are part of the fest's retrospective look at her career. Dorrie is noted for a very playful kind of satire, one that takes an absurdist view of relationships and human nature. *Enlightenment*, the most entertaining of the films surveyed, follows two middle-aged brothers as they seek the title condition in Japan, first in the neon-drenched city of Tokyo, then at a Japanese monastery. Dorrie's witty insights filigree the film in a series of memorable images: Gustav trying to raise real money with a German rendition of "I Will Survive" to startled Tokyo passersby; a seemingly heartfelt goodbye from the monks, who, when the brothers turn away, hold their noses and wave them away in disgust. Watch for a very funny bit with a bourgeois queen, abandoned by his "ex-husband," for whom Gustav graciously performs feng shui. (Fri., 1/19) ▼

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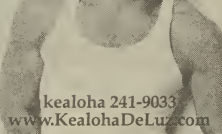


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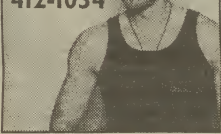
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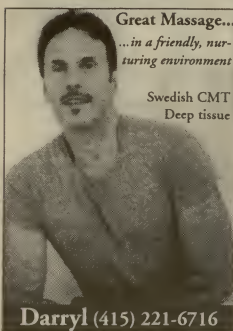
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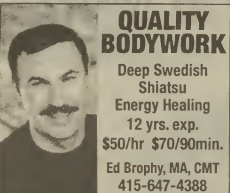
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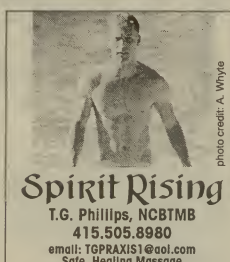
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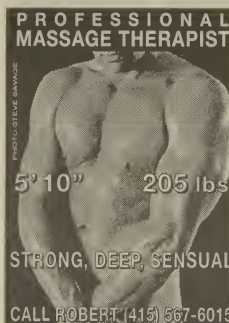
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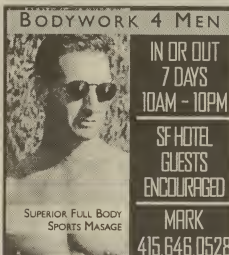
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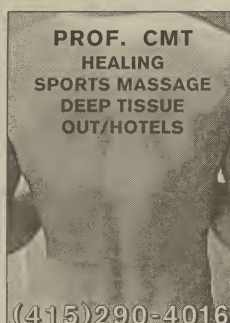
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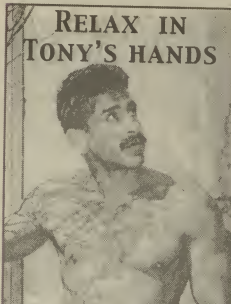
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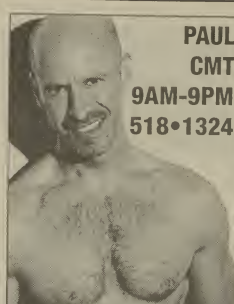


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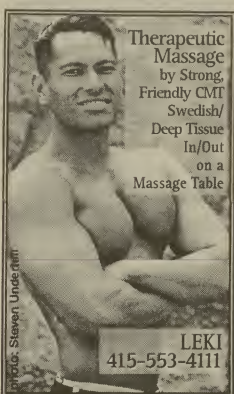
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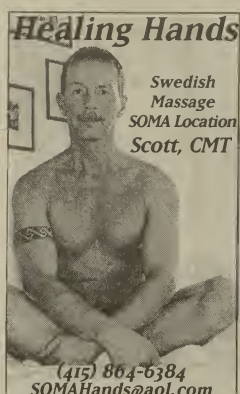
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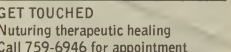
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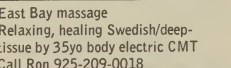


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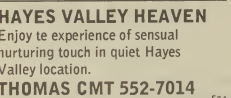


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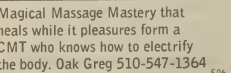
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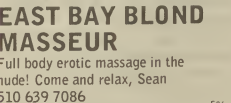


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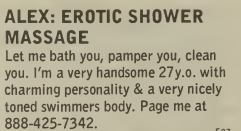
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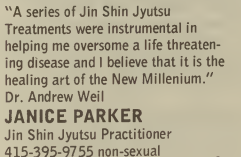


**ALEX: EROTIC SHOWER MASSAGE**

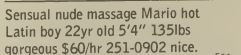
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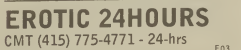


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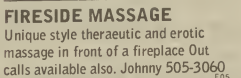


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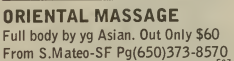
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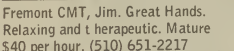


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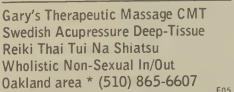
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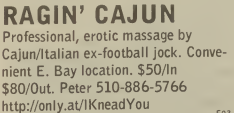


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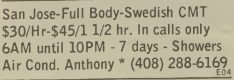


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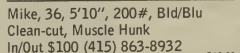


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Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195#  
Scott (415) 414-1132 In/Out calls



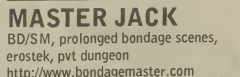
**BORN TO SERVE MEN**  
HOT, HUNGRY, HORNY BOTTOM  
Ale, 242-4230, 24hrs. in/out

Erotic massage by handsome gentle daddy age 45 well hung \$60 outcalls only Dave 503-1629



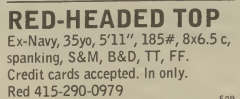
**MASTER JACK**

BD/SM, prolonged bondage scenes, erotest, pvt dungeon  
http://www.bondagemaster.com



**RED-HEADED TOP**

Ex-Navy, 35yo, 5'11", 185#, 8x6.5 c, spanking, S&M, B&D, TT, FF.  
Credit cards accepted. In only.  
Red 415-290-0979



**23YO SAN JOSE MIDWESTERN FRAT BOY!**

6'2", 175, cute, smooth, runners build, awesome endowment, red bush. In/out EscortInSJ@aol.com or 408-348-4425. Justin!



**BIKER TOP, ITALIAN**

43, 6'3", 225lbs, muscular, inked, thick stache & tool 13ee feet  
Bruno 415-596-6235

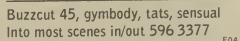


**BEAR MEN**

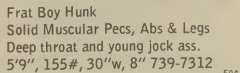
Furry men of all sizes wanted for XXX videos. Beards a plus. Fun atmosphere 510-215-1517



Buzzcut 45, gymbody, tats, sensual  
Into most scenes in/out 596 3377



Frat Boy Hunk  
Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs  
Deep throat and young jock ass.  
5'9", 155#, 30"w, 8" 739-7312




**HAIRY N' HORNY**

6', 165, 40, tats/go-t, hung, nice bubble butt, top/vers. Kink to romance. BB, WS, etc. Your way!  
Dallas 572-6906



10" X 6" CUT 6'6" 220 BR/BL 45YO  
**XTRA HUNG DAD**  
All scenes -kink- 24 hrs 255-8093  
SM,BD, verbal, role playing.



**MANPLAY NOW**

6', 190#, hung, hairy 46" chest, 34yo mild to extreme top/versatile  
TT,S/M,B/D,CBT, FF-sling  
**RAY (415) 672-3007**





## MODEL/ESCORTS

**6'4" 245lb**  
**MASCULINE • VERBAL**  
**DOMINANT TOP**  
**BODY BUILDER**  
**COLT MODEL TYPE**  
**HUNG 9 CUT-N-THICK**  
**EXTREMELY GOOD**  
**LOOKING, HOT ITALIAN**  
**INTO**  
**DOMINATION,**  
**DISCIPLINE,**  
**SPANKING,**  
**WATER SPORTS,**  
**ALL TOP SCENES**  
**NICK 415-210-2580**  
**24 HR SAFE/DISCREET**

**SOMETHING GENUINE**  
**FROM BIG EASY**  
**BL/BL 6'4"**  
**VERGE**  
 Fun, clean, safe,  
 guy, not fanta-  
 sy-oriented,  
 model, pianist,  
 masseur, date, etc.  
 Age 37.  
 For most of  
 Bay Area.  
 Outcalls only.  
**408-403-6307**

**JAMIE**  
 HOT MUSCULAR LATIN BOY  
**PAGER 245-8679**

**TOM 415-256-6743**  
 outcalls sf bay area  
 email: TomBuStoneXXX@aol.com

Naked runner Peninsula/SF thick  
 7.5" Big Balls 650-213-9091

**WILD MAN!!**  
 Sexy, nice body, athletic, open-mind-  
 ed, 24 hrs. In/out 415 208-8099

Butt massage w/toys. Fullbody  
 pleasure by boyish CMT 596-3377

**6' 225# very handsome bald guy w/**  
**THICK MUSCLES**  
 Great thighs/calves & big manly  
 muscle butt. Awesome hairy chest  
 36" waist 18" arms. (415) 902-0748

Very H/some, well hung & goateed  
**SHVD HEAD STUD**  
 28yo Top with Big Balls. For Oral  
 Enthusiasts- Clint 540 5311 (24hrs)

BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/Bay Area  
 Ted\* (415) 459-3488

**LEATHER/SM/FANTASY**  
 40yo top 6'1", 195# 7" uncult, flattop  
 Gd/king into bondage, s/m, w/s,  
 f/f, cbt, violet wand, toys, boots.  
 Beginner? Have playspace & equip.  
 Scott(415)414-1132Pg# In or Out

**Oh Daddy!**  
**10.5 x 7.5**  
**6'3"**  
**190**  
**48**  
**www.sfhungdad.com**  
**VM/PGR**  
**(415) 224-9382**

**FETISH, ANYONE?**  
 Are you a man with a unique imagination?  
 Special cravings? Enjoy erotic  
 adventure tailored to your special kink.  
 Mild to edge. Private playroom.  
 Call **LEATHERMASTER**  
**436-9379**

**HORSE HUNG**  
**FARMBOY**  
**6'3 Butch Top In/Out**  
**STEVE (415) 313-4041**

**HUNG BLACK TOP**  
**415-251-1698**  
**24 HOURS • IN/OUT**

**MASSAGE/ESCORT**  
**I'LL MAKE YOU**  
**FEEL GOOD!!**  
**Pager**  
**415-201-0579**  
**IN/OUT**

Hardcore school boy, educated,  
 creative, not shy, open-minded, very  
 cute! In/out travel Hotels & overnight  
 stays call 24hrs 208-8099

**WS ENERGIZER BEAR (TOP)**  
 Car keep on going. Avail for other  
 scenes, too (FF/toys/massage). Serious  
 calls only. 10am-10pm 339-7465

**STATUE OF DAVID**  
 Sculpted smooth 6'1/85# Blond  
 Adonis. Hot, cleancut, classical looks.  
 Loves ass worship. In/Out 310-2930

**SEXY LATINO**  
 Eduardo 415 406 7341 out only

**CUTE FACE DIRTY MIND**  
 Hot 25 165# 5'10" verse/bottom  
 Kyle 376-6396

**SAN JOSE BOY**  
 25, 5'11", 165#, blonde, 120/hr  
 Pager/voice: 408-882-8669  
 www.SJBoy.com

**FOR ASIAN MEN**  
 Good Looking German masseur 24,  
 CMT, gives Swedish/deep tissue  
 using table/hot oil 24/7. Jason  
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**PORN SUPERSTAR**  
**Eric Manchester**  
**In or Out 24 hr**  
**50-hr**  
**415-251-3752**  
**NO DRUGS NO SAM**

**TWENTY YEARS OLD**  
**Page: Josh 415-414-3263**

**29yo Filipino**  
**5'8" 145lb**  
**cute**  
**smooth**  
**lean**  
**muscular**  
**versatile**  
**educated**  
**discreet**  
**safe**  
**clean**  
**sexyboy.com**  
**\$150 in or \$200 out 24hr**  
**Joey 415-786-1427**

**20YO BLONDE**  
 6ft 165 Smooth  
 Gym built and beautifully hung  
 Matt pgr: 560-7456

**VERY SEXY TOP**  
 Very handsome, hung passionate, cre-  
 ative, strong & gentle, fulfill  
 your fantasies, friendly. 207-6486

**QUEER AS ME!**  
**CHARMING SLENDER BOY**  
 28" waist 135# 5'10" 26yo  
 smooth affectionate open-minded  
 Mitch 415-393-9020  
 \$150 out-call / \$200 in-call  
 Photos at www.cyberbellion.com

9 1/2x 7 1/2" top-2 versatile- Clint  
 GWM 40 gym toned, smooth, tan, cut  
 hot butt. Lots of time. 864 2974

**"MENSFITNESS" MODEL**  
 Model with Click-NY known for  
 Gillette Sensor Razor Blades  
 TV spots. 6'3", 200lbs. Very  
 well endowed (9.5x7), smooth  
 34years, sexually open 24hours  
 (415) 717-2694

Slave with collar  
 Christopher \$100/hr 370-4341

9" uncult, firm butt, 150lbs, 6'1"  
 versatile. Phone 415-420-2581

It's time for some 1 on 1 with  
 the coach. 415/565-0546.

Sexy blond jock with w/shbrd abs &  
 Incredible pecs. 5'9", 165, 8-1/2" c.  
 Tanned, masculine, & very  
 handsome \$100/120.  
**JASON 864-1190**

**BOTTOM BOY**  
 24hrs Barrie  
 245-7616

**BULLDOGY**  
**www.bulldogy.com**  
**5'11", 235#, 48c, 18a, 26t, 7.5**  
**FF, WS, Leather, Uniforms**  
**AGGRESSIVE BOTTOM**  
**415-595-7348 IN/OUT**

**FRANCO**  
**HOT & SEXY**  
**841.8476**  
**HOTLATINOESCORT.COM**

**SPICY HOT ASIAN**  
**Li Chan pgr-202-9196**

Total top, 8x6, Dom/masc, friendly,  
 36, in/out, \$150/eves Marc 643-6495

**HOT BOTTOM SLAVE**  
 Live to service Men!  
 Discreet & Passionate In/Out  
 Dean 415-307-9123

**BOTTOM LOVERS**  
 Young tight and horny slave boy  
 Outcalls only Shaun (415) 509-4224

**SIZE MATTERS - 9X7**  
 Erik 24-hour hard-on 292-4853

**NEW AD**  
**HOT HUNG AUSTRALIAN**  
 Visiting SF for a short time  
 call Rob 24/7 for blonde blue  
 masculine man 415 377 2377

Handsone masculine hung dude  
**KICKS BACK FOR YOU**  
 5'11" 175 br/gr 30's 8" days ok  
 Soma- Randy 864-7811 \$75/in

35, 6'2", 215# **MUSCLE TOP**  
**HANDSOME/HORNY/HAIRY/HUNG**  
**\*YNG MSCL DAD\***  
 Xtremely good-looking. German-  
 Ancestry. Blond/buzzd w/goatee  
 yngmscladdy@aol.com 336-0444  
 Young sexy & smart 708 8207 \$150

**9X6 24-HOURS**  
 (415) 775-4771 24-hours

**MUSCLE BOTTOM**  
**SERVING YOUR NEEDS.**  
 Extremely handsome, green eyed,  
 dark haired, 35yr. old Greek.  
 Amazing rock hard body. 5'9", 175#  
 44" c, 30" w, 16" arms, Furry chest.  
 Hard, tight, butt than can handle  
 whatever you're packin. Kick back  
 service for xtra hung. Please, serious  
 only. Peter 595-3643 \$175

**8X7**  
**6'1"**  
**240#**  
**MACK**  
**www.MACKsf.com**  
**227-7448**

**INDULGE**  
**YOURSELF!**  
**IN/OUT CALLS**  
**357.0705**

**SEXY BOY/W/O ATTITUDE**  
**RICK 415-720-1075**

**STUNNING ASIAN**  
 boyplaymate. Enter my web! 370-3307

**\*\*BLUECOLLAR\*\***  
 Masculine handsome horny & hung  
 buzzed head goatee tattoos & fun  
 Jack 415 219-3725 - 24hrs.

Hot x-smth Asian bottom 5'8", 140  
 swimr bdy bubl-butt also 4bondg  
 fists spankg etc. Joey 560-6353

Butt massage w/toys. Fullbody  
 pleasure by boyish CMT 596-3377

**HOT NUDE**  
**SERVING VALLEJO E.BAY**  
 6'2" 200# Italian 35 yrs old  
 Well hung. Gives erotic, sensual  
 massage in the nude. Ph Anthony  
 at (707) 648-8808

**FORCEFUL PLOWING**  
 Byhot hung top pg 888 215 2268

**HORNY & READY**  
 Hot blond boy with tight bod, great  
 smile and attitude. Available for discreet  
 sessions, mild or wild, uninhibited, open  
 minded, showoff. Barrie 245-7616

R U tired of calling up ads &  
 these guys r nothing they claim  
 2 B? If so then pay att. to this:  
**100%REAL!NO BULLSHIT**  
**OR DON'T PAY 5'10" 160,**  
**9.5X7 ROUND CUT**  
 Toned fit body, tan! See my review @  
 www.male4malescorts.com. I'm 24hrs.  
 I am fun, adventuresome, outgoing, &  
 yes, I have class 510 219 9028 Shane

**WANT IT ROUGH?**  
 Lean smooth leather top, 32,  
 gives it like you need it. Sling  
 FF/SM/BD/WS/TT, slave training  
**PAGE JACK 790-3312**



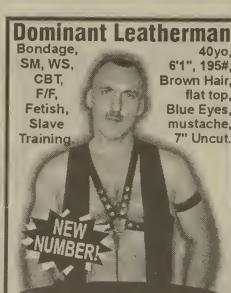
# MODEL/ESCORTS




**BRUNO**  
COME TO DADDY  
6'3", 225lbs, 17a, 48c, 25t  
FF, WS, TT, CBT, BD  
Verbal, Affectionate  
(415) 596-6235  
ShavedHeadDad@aol.com




**LUKE STEELE**  
415-572-7361



**Dominant Leatherman**  
Bondage, SM, WS, CBT, F/F, Fetish, Slave Training.  
40yo, 6'1", 195#, Brown Hair, flat top, Blue Eyes, mustache, 7" Uncut.  
NEW NUMBER!  
Beginners Welcome  
Have equipment and playspace.  
Scott (415) 414-1132 In/Out  
<http://209.133.75.78/scott/index.html>



**CHAD**  
6'4" 235 lbs  
Hung 9" & Cut  
• 24 HOURS  
• MASCULINE  
• AGGRESSIVE  
• VERBAL  
• DOMINANT  
• MOST SCENES  
• STRICTLY TOP  
• SAFE/DISCREET  
415-210-2573



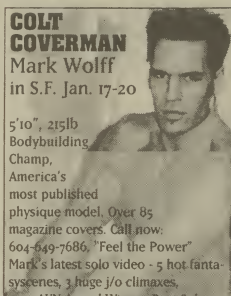
**Rich**  
Handsome & Sexy Butch  
5'9"-185#-Uncut-Tats  
Top • FF • WS  
24hr. • 219-5034



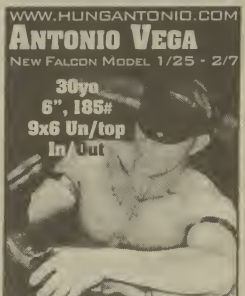
**LUKE STEELE**  
In/Out 6' 215#  
415-902-0748  
415-201-6533



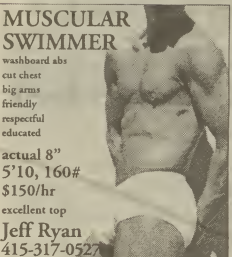
**Strictly Kickback**  
Oral Top  
8"x6"  
Hot 27yo 6'2" 190#  
415-377-4304 In/out  
audio lat-in k.



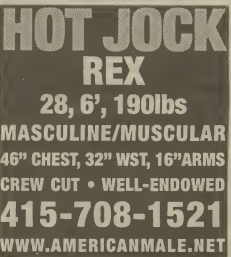
**COLT COVERMAN**  
Mark Wolff  
in S.F. Jan. 17-20  
5'10", 215lb  
Bodybuilding  
Champ,  
America's  
most published  
physique model. Over 85  
magazine covers. Call now:  
604-649-7686, "Feel the Power"  
Mark's latest solo video - 5 hot fanta-  
syscenes, 3 huge j/o climaxes,  
2000AVN Award Winner Best Solo  
Video. \$40. 14 page catalog of all Wolf  
videos \$5 each. MCA, M/C, to:  
M. Wolff Ent. P.O. Box 34069  
Dept 238 Seattle, WA 98124  
[www.markwolff.com](http://www.markwolff.com)



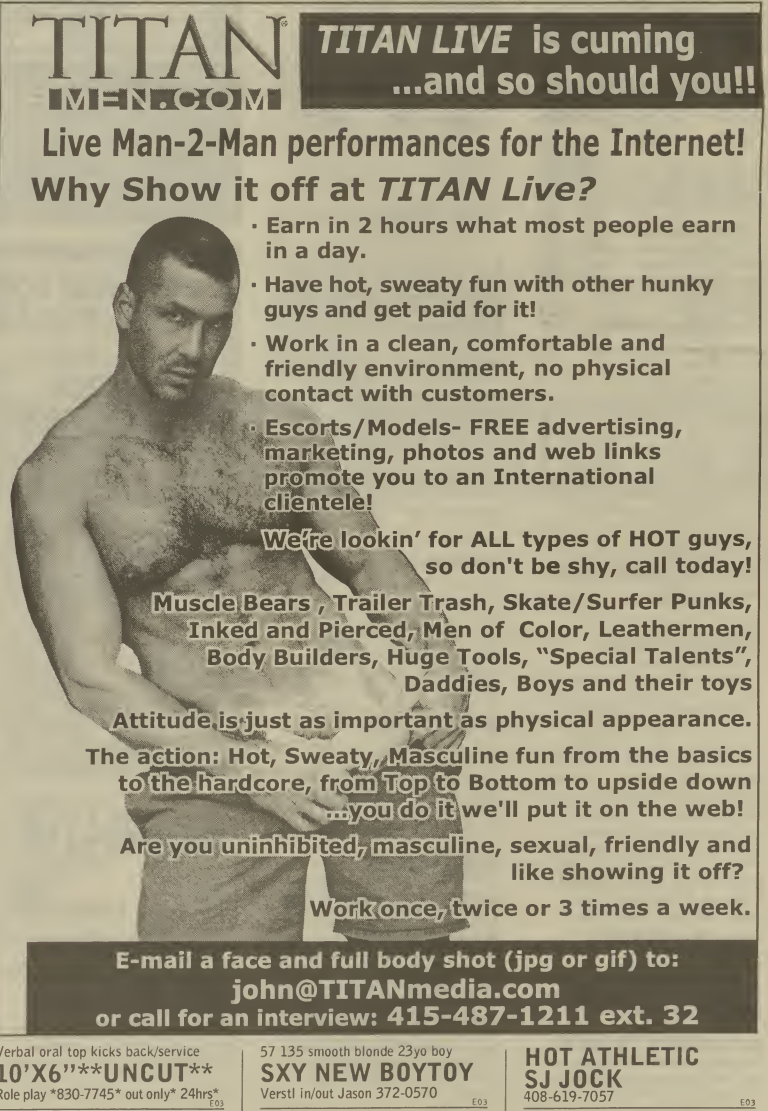
**ANTONIO VEGA**  
NEW FALCON MODEL 1/25 - 2/7  
30yo  
6", 185#  
9x6 Un/top  
In/Out  
MOST SCENES: MILD TO WILD, KINK  
OR VANILLA, INCLUDE BUT NOT LIM-  
ITED TO S/M, SPANKING, BT, TT,  
BODY WORSHIP. CALL ANYTIME!  
CEL: 202-607-8966



**MUSCULAR SWIMMER**  
washboard abs  
cut chest  
big arms  
friendly  
respectful  
educated  
actual 8"  
5'10, 160#  
\$150/hr  
excellent top  
Jeff Ryan  
415-317-0527



**HOT JOCK REX**  
28, 6', 190lbs  
MASCULINE/MUSCULAR  
46" CHEST, 32" WST, 16" ARMS  
CREW CUT • WELL-ENDOWED  
415-708-1521  
[WWW.AMERICANMALE.NET](http://WWW.AMERICANMALE.NET)



**TITAN MEN.COM**  
**TITAN LIVE is cuming ...and so should you!!**  
Live Man-2-Man performances for the Internet!  
Why Show it off at TITAN Live?  
• Earn in 2 hours what most people earn in a day.  
• Have hot, sweaty fun with other hunky guys and get paid for it!  
• Work in a clean, comfortable and friendly environment, no physical contact with customers.  
• Escorts/Models- FREE advertising, marketing, photos and web links promote you to an International clientele!  
We're lookin' for ALL types of HOT guys, so don't be shy, call today!  
Muscle Bears, Trailer Trash, Skate/Surfer Punks, Inked and Pierced, Men of Color, Leathermen, Body Builders, Huge Tools, "Special Talents", Daddies, Boys and their toys  
Attitude is just as important as physical appearance.  
The action: Hot, Sweaty, Masculine fun from the basics to the hardcore, from Top to Bottom to upside down ...you do it we'll put it on the web!  
Are you uninhibited, masculine, sexual, friendly and like showing it off?  
Work once, twice or 3 times a week.  
E-mail a face and full body shot (jpg or gif) to:  
[john@TITANmedia.com](mailto:john@TITANmedia.com)  
or call for an interview: 415-487-1211 ext. 32  
Verbal oral top kicks back/service  
10'X6"\*\*\*UNCUT\*\*  
Role play \*830-7745\* ext only\* 24hrs\*  
57 135 smooth blonde 23yo boy  
SKY NEW BOYTOY  
Verstl in/out Jason 372-0570  
HOT ATHLETIC  
SJ JOCK  
408-619-7057

**FUN LATIN TOP**  
26, 5'7", 120lbs, slim, smooth, hung  
8", thick & great ass 516-7653

**MULATTO GUY '99'**  
Call: (415) 775-4771 24-hours

**NEW AD**  
Very hot masculine top in SF  
for a short time call Rob 24/7  
415 377 2377

**Handsome hung Italian 34, 6', 160**  
**CHOKE ON THIS!**  
Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs  
all top masc dominant real 10x7  
gentle strength & arousing edge  
intlgt, verbal, kink-2-vanilla  
outcalls/hottubs/travl Bay Area  
415-256-6743 TomBusStonexxx@aol.com

**HORNY HARD & HUNG**  
Dominant, aggressive, verbal 35yo  
masculine, muscular 6' 190# stud.  
Hairy pecs, big biceps, powerful legs  
& butt. Hard 8x6c. 207-9045

**GREAT ENERGY**  
Sexy str8 & very attractive  
5'9", 180lbs muscular & fit  
blond, blue & gorgeous!  
Mike 415-995-7550

**6'4" 245LB**  
**TOM OF FINLAND COLT**  
MODEL TYPE HUNG 9  
CUT-N- THICK  
Extremely good looking masculine  
hard define verbal top into  
domination discipline bodyworship  
watersports degradation fantasies  
all top scenes 24hr safe discreet  
Rick 415 210 2596

**SEXY IRISH BOTTOM**  
23yo slim, smooth, blond uncut  
outcalls, page 415 790 2841

**LEATHER KINK**  
LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS  
WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS  
TAKING HIS TIME. TALL &  
BUILT. FULL PLAYROOM.  
RICK 431-0959

**RENTDEREK.COM**  
[WWW.ESCORTS4YOU.COM](http://WWW.ESCORTS4YOU.COM)  
GBM 9.5x6uc 415.253.8080 \$200

**KINKY BLACKTOP**  
Hot, hung and ready. Private and dis-  
creet Tony (510) 336-1999

**Sexy White boy blond 29yrs**  
**BEAUTIFUL BUTT**  
VERSATILE, HUNG NICE & EAGER  
Get on and ride, dude T.J. 605 0469

**LATIN BOTTOM**  
JOSE 637 4270  
In or out eves & wknds 150wt 5'7"ht

**TIGHT SWIMMER BODY**  
8 1/2"uc, 6'2", 160# cleancut horny  
Russian outcall, Nick 939-9112  
**THICK MOUTHFUL**

**AFFECTIONATE**  
**STUD**  
24 GWM 6' Solid 190lbs 32wst  
7"cut BubbleButt Cleancut  
Masculine Versatile IN & OUT  
PAGE ME 415-227-7727

**ALL AMERICAN MUSCLE**  
28, 5'11", 215, rock solid,  
48" c, 32" w, 17" a, bubble butt,  
hard, tool, educated, friendly,  
100% real. Contact for appt.  
[musclequests@yahoo.com](mailto:musclequests@yahoo.com) Out.



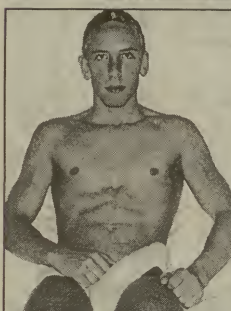
## MODEL/ ESCORTS

## S/M SENSUALITY

-long, & slow- my specialty.  
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned  
master into all aspects &  
degrees of leatherplay.  
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.  
Lord 431-0959



22/5'6" 120 Eurazn Btm 415.519.7546  
GEOCITIES.COM/PINOYNSF



Blond 5'10", 150 lbs  
Out Only  
415-414-3263 pgr



**BOTTOM WANTED**  
BIG THICK JUICY TOOL  
VINCENT 415.431.6253 \$110

## I LOVE OLDER MEN

Hot 27yo w/swimmers build hairy  
chest. 6'1", 185. I have a hot ass, but  
you'll love my mouth. Page Alex at  
(888) 234-4425.

## DUTCH COLLEGE BOY!!

23yo 6'1", 160, very sexual  
athletic body bubblebutt  
blond hair blue eyes  
only outcalls  
415-708-4857

## YES SIR!!!

Muscle bottom, lean & smooth  
ready, eager to serve you  
take action page Nick 709-1467

## CUTE 26YR OLD

5'8", 135# smooth brown/brown  
clean cut Chad (650) 755-2366  
Out calls only \$100

Handsome 24yo w/packed shorts

## SOCCER JOCK

Lean, athletic body-top/vers.  
Kevin pg# 605-5328 in/out 24/7

\*\*\*\*Bottom out in my sling!\*\*\*\*

Masculine, muscular and dominant  
leatherman 6', 180 49. Endowed  
with 9" & defined hairy chest & big  
nips nice arms & a great manly smell!  
WS, FF, CBT uniforms, boots rimseat  
nip & tool pumps 4 enlargement work  
long sessions avail. & preferred  
207 0381 www.rentboy.com/derek

## BLK TOP ALWAYS HORNY

7 years on top 8 inches on the  
bottom with endurance and loves  
his job with a loyal clientele  
Out only Cedric  
PGR VM 510-639 6576

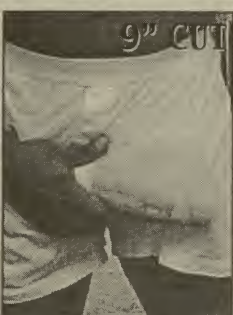
Asian nice build Tom 415-412 7261  
http://come.to/tom101/

## HNDMS BEAR TO SERVE!

Chase/415-820-1658/ \$85.00/ out  
6ft, 270lbs. Hairy, brn/grn/goatee  
ftbl player type and nice guy!



"Heaven"  
(415) 775-4771



HOT BLACK MEAT  
925-312-6003

PUERTO RICAN  
COLLEGE BOY  
YOUNG, MASCULINE, CUTE  
Call Angel (510) 206 3202 out only

SIZE 12 FEET 21 YO WM  
739-9217 SF/OUT \$100

Britbottom 23yo

## SCHOOLBOY BLONDE

Smooth sexy outcalls  
wanking, spanking fun  
Page me 415 790 3773

## SKATERBOY STUD

Hung big. Aggressive- friendly  
nice body- handsome 6', 165#  
Jake (415) 998-8087 Out only

Hot straight skateboarder and  
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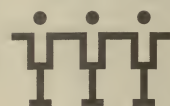




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